

Hafa Adai!

Husband pleads not guilty of charges over Limes' murder. **PAGE 2**
Guam leader OKs bill ending time limits in child sex cases. **PAGE 6**

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75¢

Suspected 'ice' source arrested

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

» **3 others also apprehended**

CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force agents arrested on Friday night in As Lito an alleged source of methamphetamine or "ice" and three other persons for conspiracy to commit trafficking "ice."

The alleged "ice" source identified as Yan Long Yu, 32, was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing on a charge of conspiracy to commit trafficking of controlled substance.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, however, reset the bail hearing for today, Tuesday, at 9am because there is a need for a Chinese interpreter.

A \$100,000 was bail was initially imposed on Yu.

Also arrested were Juan De-los Reyes Tydingco, 40, Jesse Aguon Villagomez, 50, and a woman. *Saipan Tribune* opted to withhold, for the meantime, the identity of the woman until charges are filed against her.

DETF agents, along with Department of Public Safety police officers and CNMI Customs K9 Unit, arrested the four while they were serving an arrest warrant to Tydingco

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NAVY VISIT

Two U.S. Navy sailors interact with toddlers at the Seventh Day Adventist School while the USS *Monsen* is docked at the Port of Saipan yesterday at the SDA campus.

ERWIN ENCINARES

See story on Page 3

'No limit on number of junket operators'

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

No limit will be imposed as to how many junket operators will be allowed to do business on Saipan once the Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort opens next year. Hong Kong-based Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC was granted the license to operate the



Deleon Guerrero

lone casino on the island with the first phase of its multi-billion dollar project expected to open in early 2017.

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said junket operators have been "a necessary part of the gaming industry" that's why they decided not

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Hawaiian Rock: Contract to patch CUC water line repairs already expired

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Hawaiian Rock Products Saipan general manager David Bush stated yesterday that their company does not have a current contract to patch the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s water line repairs.

Bush said CUC's contract that was signed in May 2014 with Hawaiian Rock Products and extended for one calendar year has already expired.

Bush said these contracts also have specific maximum dollar limits, which can also terminate performance of the contract.

"To inform the public that Hawaiian Rock Products is not performing when there is no contract to perform is irresponsible at best," he pointed out.

Bush clarified Hawaiian Rock's contract in response to statements by CUC board chair Adelina Roberto and

vice chair Eric San Nicolas that the utilities agency should not be at the mercy of contractors as they and other directors expressed concern with the potholes that CUC is causing on the roads in villages on Saipan due to its water leak-repair program.

At last week's CUC board meeting, CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho stated that it is his understanding that there are times that there is just a need for a small

amount to patch on road cuts and that it's not economically sound for Hawaiian Rock to process their big equipment for a small amount.

San Nicolas said CUC should not be catering to the contractor.

In Hawaiian Rock's reply, Bush said CUC acting executive director Camacho and the board should be better informed not only as to if there is a valid contract but also as to

See CUC on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Northern Marianas Trades Institution's inaugural gala held last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan was well received by the community.

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NATION

The 20-year-old man suspected of killing five people with a rifle at a Macy's makeup counter had a string of run-ins with the law in recent years.

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FOCUS

A small but growing number of elementary schools and individual teachers are doing away with the after-school chore to allow kids more time to play, participate in activities, spend time with families, read and sleep.

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Local

Husband pleads not guilty of charges over Limes' murder

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Sylvestre Rogopes Sablan yesterday entered a plea of not guilty to all charges over the killing of his wife at their residence in Oleai last year.

At the arraignment, Sablan,

through counsel assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit, waived reading of advisement of his constitutional rights.

Sablan, 44, pleaded not guilty to the information charging him with second degree murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, and aggra-

vated assault and battery.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja set a status conference for Nov. 1, 2016 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Ana Maria Pialur Limes, 52, a former staff assistant of

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), was found dead inside her house in Oleai/San Jose on April 20, 2015 at noon. Autopsy showed that she died of a skull fracture due to blunt force trauma.

Police Detective Simon Manacop disclosed in his

report that on Feb. 5, 2016, Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Haejun Park provided him with a report from the FBI laboratory examination.

Manacop said the FBI examination showed that a chemical test for the presence of blood was positive on the physical evidence—the short pants procured from Sablan.

Manacop said the results concluded that “to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty” Limes was identified as a contributor of DNA obtained from the short pants.

The FBI examination report also confirmed that female DNA was present on a sledgehammer and pieces of wooden paddle.

Manacop said examination done on the sledgehammer and pieces of wooden paddle confirm “to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty,” Limes is the source of DNA obtained from both items.

Manacop said physical evidence procured from the crime scene such as the sledgehammer, pieces of wooden paddle, stick from a wooden paddle, along with the clothing procured from Sablan, were sent to the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, Virginia for analytical examination.

Manacop said that, on April 20, 2015 at 12:12pm, Sablan's brother, Joaquin, called the Department of Public Safety's emergency line and requested the police to check on Sablan's residence.

Joaquin reported that his nephew mentioned about finding Limes inside her house lying down in a pool of blood.

Karidat receives donation from BOG, Walmart

The Bank of Guam donated \$20,028.52 to Karidat last Sept. 16, 2016. The Bank of Guam donation along with a recent \$30,000 grant award from the Walmart Foundation through Catholic Charities USA will be used for the development and implementation of sustainable food bank.

The Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps VISTA also granted Karidat a “Volunteer In Service To America” (VISTA) volunteer to assist with the development, implementation, and evaluation of a food bank that addresses food security and climate change mitigation.

Karidat has maintained a food pantry since it opened in May 1980, which has been

supplying people in need with donated food from local businesses and canned food drives from schools and civic organizations. Typhoon Soudelor, which hit Saipan on Aug. 2, 2015, exposed the need for a more robust food security program with the ability for remote community outreach. Many months after Saipan's initial recovery from Soudelor, Karidat is still being inundated with requests for food assistance and realizes just how difficult it is for some to get around the island to ask for help. Therefore, a viable food security program is important especially with the risk of more frequent extreme weather events in the future likely due to climate change.

With its grant from the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam and Karidat staff pose for a group photo after the BOG donated \$20,028.52 to the charitable institution last Sept. 16, 2016.

Walmart Foundation through Catholic Charities USA, Karidat was able to purchase a pick-up truck that will assist us with the pick-up and delivery of food to the more remote villages on Saipan. With the help of the VISTA Volunteer,

Karidat is working to develop a sustainable food bank which that will include satellite food storage facilities in select villages on Saipan, as well as Rota, and Tinian.

Karidat is grateful for the recent donation from the Bank

of Guam. Karidat will utilize Bank of Guam's donation to purchase the equipment it needs to achieve its goal of a sustainable food bank that will not only address food security in the CNMI but be disaster ready too.



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USS *Momsen* sailors interact with SDA School students

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Six U.S. Navy sailors from the USS *Momsen* talked to curious students about what it is that they really do for the country during a visit yesterday at the Seventh Day Adventist School.

USS *Momsen* chaplain Lt. Kevin Wilkinson said that an opportunity to visit schools is a good way to give back to the land that they are protecting.

"This is a community relationship service opportunity that we get to be a part of. The government State Department

set this up, they contacted us and said if you'd like to, there is an opportunity visit with the school, to meet and visit the students and teachers," said Wilkinson.

"We're just here for a few hours to get to know the community, and it's a great chance for our sailors to get back to learn more. Whenever we get to a port, it's nice to get off the ship for a little while, but what's really great is that we can come meet the people. Something like this does that, it's a community experience. We read stories with kids today, we did a little bit

of exercises with them, and talked to them about what we do in the Navy."

Wilkinson and five other sailors got to share personal stories and described how the ship looked like.

"We talked about what our roles are on the ship, we described what our home towns are like, how long we've been in the Navy and such. The kids had a question-and-answer type, where the kids wondered about how many of us were on the ship, how many women were on the ship, they were curious as to how many push ups they can do.

It's a neat learning opportunity," said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson shared that having the Navy come into contact with kids at such an early age emphasizes the luxury of safety.

"I think it reinforces the thought of safety. It's a big world out there, and there are a lot of people who are all together for safety, and I think that's a healthy thing. It's helping them understand what goes on in the ships that we see way out there. I think to connect that with them early on, helps to understand that there are people in the world who are here to help make all

of us safe. I think that's a good thing," he said.

SDA School principal Randy Yates thinks that the event was interesting. "[The students] were able to hear some of the things that were going on. Especially the kindergarteners, because they were able to hear how big the ship was, how many people lived together, and how long they would be in the ocean at a time," he said.

Yates also noted the reactions of the older children. "With the older students, it's good to see a mix, because they had a women sailor here, and it's good to show them that there were women doing jobs

that only men used to do."

Yates pointed out that the intention of the visit was not to get the children into the military, but more to spark the children's interests and possible opportunities for the future, especially students of nationalities that are required to undergo military training.

"Do I want them in the military? No, not necessarily, but I think that it is good that they get to see the different opportunities that people have. We have a lot of international students, and when they reach a certain age, some of them would be required to go into the military because of their country (Korea, Israel, etc.)."

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CCA aims to bring oral cancer cases in CNMI to zero

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Cancer Association is confident that they could bring the number of oral cancer cases in the CNMI down to zero with the help of the community and armed with the recently signed Public Law 19-66, or the act to prohibit sale of betel or areca nut to minors.

Recent studies made by University of Guam-Cancer Research Center, in partnership with the Hawaii Cancer Research Center, show that betel nut chewing causes risk of getting oral cancer. UOG health sciences assistant professor Dr. Yvette C. Paulino is the research project coordinator.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signs House Bill 19-65 or an act that would prevent the sale, offer or giving of areca nut (betel nut) to minors last Friday at the Governor's Office's conference room. HB 19-65 is now Public Law 19-66.

JON PEREZ

signed PL 19-66, House Bill 19-65, last Friday with principal author Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) along with CCA officials and their partners like the Community Guidance Center and several dental clinics in attendance.

CCA president Roman "Bo" T. Palacios said they are thankful for the assistance given by CGC and the dental clinics that helped them get the figures of oral cancer cases in the CNMI. "They helped us in getting the numbers from

the people that were used in the study.

There have been 57 oral cancer cases that were linked to betel nut chewing since 2007 in the CNMI with 39 have already died. Oral cancer is the third-ranked cancer type in the Commonwealth next to breast and cervical.

"CCA is working closely with Dr. Paulino to basically help us, help you to quit chewing since several dozens have been afflicted by oral cancer here in the CNMI. Mr. [Juan L.] Babauta has also been diligent in educating the people, that's why we're confident that we're going to make strides in getting that number back to zero."

Babauta, CCA's program director, said there are also two

pending bills in the Legislature that is also connected to betel nut one of which is House Bill 19-72 introduced by Rep. Blas Jonathan Attao (Ind-Saipan) that would impose a \$5 per lb tax on betel nut imported into the CNMI either by a person or a business.

"We continue with our educational awareness campaign with the likes of Mami Ikeda going to schools and reaching out to other families. We will work closely with our partners and parents, and now that we also have a legislation in hand," said Babauta.

Ikeda has been an oral cancer advocate after the death of her brother Kazu two years ago. Two of her brother's friends also died due to oral cancer.

Seventh-day Adventist Dental Clinic's Dr. Ken Pierson is also encouraging people in the community, especially those who regularly chew betel nut, to schedule a checkup at a dental clinic. "If you noticed something in your mouth, like sores, then get yourself checked. This is a free cancer screening and early detection is a key in the treatment."

CUC

From Page 1

the terms of any such contract.

Bush said the CUC board and Camacho should know there is no current contract.

Bush said he takes exception to Hawaiian Rock being characterized as somehow taking advantage of CUC and in turn CUC customers when this isn't the case.

He added that contractors do not place a government agency at "their mercy" as contracts are bid on proposals from an agency that outlines the scope of work.

Bush said if CUC wishes to have patches done on a single patch basis then the bid pro-

posal has to state this as part of the terms.

Bush said if CUC states that the patches will be done on the accumulation of a certain number of patches, then that is how the contract is bid and then executed.

He said if the CUC board has an issue with the way contracts are written then the board needs to review proposals and address those issues with the appropriate parties in CUC prior to a proposal being issued for bid.

Bush said Hawaiian Rock has been serving the community for almost 40 years, publicly and privately, and has often partnered with the government and private sector in community event over the years.

Water quality of Garapan watershed constantly monitored

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Qualify watershed coordinator Katie Graziano said they have been constantly monitoring the water quality of the Garapan Watershed, which is considered to be the CNMI's priority watershed.

Graziano made a presentation in last week's 36th U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting to give an update on the steps that BECQ had been taking in addressing the issues that arises in Garapan, which can be considered Saipan's central business district.

Graziano said the Garapan watershed is the most urbanized and highly developed watershed in the entire CNMI. "Garapan is the most highly

concentrated and developed areas in that watershed. It consists of two square miles and have about 4,000 residents that are either living in apartments and family compounds."

"On top of that, there's almost 40,000 tourists that visit Saipan and the CNMI every month. They come through Garapan at one point making it the tourist center on Saipan. Garapan has hotels, shops, and restaurants. It is the center of tourist and economic activity."

Graziano said that rapid development in Garapan has also made the area the most challenging watershed. "There have been constant issues within the area like sewer infrastructure problems. Right now, if you walk around Garapan you could see rapid eco-

nomics development."

That's why, she added, they have stepped up their efforts in monitoring the watershed. "Issues that are contributing to bacteria are from humans and animals, nutrient overload, chemicals, sediment, and grease and oil that are washed to the lagoon."

That's why the Garapan Conservation Action Plan was put in place a few years ago to keep a closer look in the CNMI's most important watershed. BECQ updated the CAP in 2013 where they implemented new monitoring and sampling techniques to see other threats in the watershed and educating the public especially the youth to be part of the Garapan Watershed Warriors.

"The purpose is to create

and adopt a management plan that is community based. We brought together more than 60 stakeholders and over 30 partner organizations to identify main targets and strategic actions to address the problems in Garapan," said Graziano.

"We updated the plan in 2015 and the main change is integrating climate change adaptation based on a vulnerability assessment to enhance the resiliency of the Garapan area," added Graziano.

"We also introduced the Watershed Warriors where we teach students on environmental preservation and learning about coral reef. At the end of the curriculum, we take the students to field trips or have them plant trees. We have 50 students each year and we hope to expand it."

ICE

From Page 1

at his residence in As Lito last Friday night.

Tydingco was arrested on charges of trafficking of controlled substance and illegal possession of controlled substance.

Villagomez was arrested on charges of conspiracy to commit trafficking of controlled substance and illegal possession of controlled substance.

At a hearing yesterday, Judge Camacho imposed a \$100,000 cash bail each on Tydingco and Villagomez.

Preliminary hearing will be on Oct. 4, 2016 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Tydingco, while a private counsel will be appointed for Villagomez.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Glass Jr. appeared for the government.

DETF investigator Roque K. Camacho stated in his re-

port that their cooperating source managed to purchase from Tydingco last Aug. 16 \$140 worth of 0.83 grams of substance that was tested positive presumptive of methamphetamine or "ice."

Camacho said Tydingco was driving a green Toyota Corolla during the drug deal that happened in the parking lot of a store in As Lito in the afternoon.

Camacho said that last Friday, he received a call from a police officer, informing him that he was entertaining a theft case filed by a woman against Tydingco.

The woman went to a motel in San Jose, where Tydingco is staying in one room, to ask for her laptop that the suspect allegedly stole from her last August.

The woman told police that while she was at Tydingco's room, she saw a box of marijuana, a small bag of "ice," and drug paraphernalia.

The woman said she saw Tydingco taking out a handgun and showing her a bullet.

The woman said when she saw the items, she turned away and immediately left the room. She also disclosed that she observed Tydingco armed with other guns since she met him last August.

Officer Camacho said that in 2010, Tydingco eluded police on board his pick-up truck to avoid getting arrested pursuant to an arrest warrant for narcotics investigation.

Officer Camacho said during the execution of that warrant of arrest, several ammunitions were discovered in Tydingco's vehicle.

Officer Camacho said Tydingco was recently released from prison and has been arrested a couple of times in the past for narcotics violations.

DETF Officer Danny Joe O. Fitial stated in his report that they went to Tydingco's house on Friday at 9pm to serve an arrest to Tydingco.

Fitial said as they arrived, a tinted silver Toyota Corolla quickly reversed toward the entrance.

Fitial said the car almost

struck the front portion of his vehicle.

Fitial said he ran toward the driver's side of the Toyota Corolla, instructed the driver, who was later identified as defendant Yu, to get on the ground, and secured him with handcuffs.

DETF agents arrested Tydingco and Villagomez, who hid at a saw grass.

DETF Rudolph C. Sablan Jr. stated in his report that during an interview, Tydingco confessed that Yu has been his source of "ice" for over a year now.

Sablan said according to Tydingco, prior to the arrival of DETF agents, Villagomez handed him \$300 to help him buy "ice."

Tydingco called Yu to buy \$300 worth of "ice."

The DETF reports did not mention what was the woman's participation in the drug transaction.

Tydingco alleged admitted that he purchased "ice" worth \$4,000 from Yu that day during eight transactions.

JUNKET

From Page 1

to impose any limit.

"No number [limit] for the junket operators. The live training facility that currently operates only has five VIP rooms, but when the Grand Mariana opens, it will have a bigger number of VIP rooms to accommodate those who come here to play," Deleon Guerrero said.

"The junket operators are a necessary part of the gaming industry and we are competing in a regional area and you have the likes of Macau and Singapore. Right now Saipan is the fifth most favorite destination by Chinese tourists and we are also fifth in the casino gaming world behind Macau, Las Vegas, Singapore, and the Philippines. Now we are on the world map," he added.

Deleon Guerrero said the junket operators would have different arrangements with Imperial Pacific, Best Sunshine's parent company, "Some are small players while some would represent VIPs, these are people who would bet large amounts of money."

Deleon Guerrero added that they had already awarded Big Bang Entertainment of Korea—whose clients are mostly from Korea and Japan—a provisional junket operator license and they, along with Imperial Pacific, are screening about 17 more applicants.

"All the applicants are still under review. We have implemented additional review process, where are working with the casino operator to have them vet the junket operators too, beginning from the financial perspective. Currently IPI goes through a vetting process before they issue a credit to their VIPs," he said.

Junket operator applicants would go through a strict process that includes credit, role, wealth, and delegation checks. "It is a process that is something we wanted the junket operators to go through."

"Once IPI approves the issuance of the credit process, then they will issue a letter of intent to transact with this company as a junket operator. They would then submit that to the CCC, including their findings along with the letter of intent that they would do business with that operator," Deleon Guerrero said.

"At that CCC would continue to screen the criminal and association background checks from the time the application was submitted and the fees are paid. Once we get the letter of intent and IPI's findings, we then assess whether or not the applicant requires further vetting and we will assess a minimum amount for investigation purposes. So, if IPI refuses to issue the letter of intent, then that application stops. We do not entertain it anymore," he added.

IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LAWSUIT:**OAG asks court to strike plaintiffs' scandalous statements**

The Office of the Attorney General has asked the Superior Court to strike alleged scandalous statements contained in the pleadings filed in connection with the medical malpractice lawsuit brought by Remedio Elameto and her common-law husband Pedro Pua against the CNMI government and two former doctors at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Assistant attorney general Charles E. Brasington, counsel for the CNMI government and co-defendants, moved the court yesterday to strike portions of plaintiffs Elameto and Pua's opposition to the government's motion to dismiss the lawsuit.

Brasington said under the Commonwealth Rule of Civil Procedure, the court may strike any redundant, immate-

rial, impertinent, or scandalous matter in any pleadings.

Brasington said the Attorney General is not a party to this lawsuit.

He said statements that "reflect adversely on the moral character of an individual who is not a party to [a] suit" should be stricken as scandalous and impertinent.

Brasington said plaintiffs' statements about the AG, and, indeed, plaintiffs' consistent use of the term AG to mean "defendant" or "Commonwealth," do not add to plaintiffs' argument.

Brasington said plaintiffs' assertion that defendants' argument that common law marriage does not exist in the Commonwealth is "offensive" is particularly unwarranted, as the issue of whether com-

mon law marriage exists in the CNMI will be reviewed by the Supreme Court this term.

The AAG cited plaintiffs' statements that include "But instead of acting with compassion and offering to compensate Remedio for the pain she had gone through, the Office of the Attorney General denied her claim..."

Brasington said characterizing the OAG in this fashion is scandalous because it unnecessarily characterizes OAG as an uncaring, if not malevolent, entity.

He pointed out that OAG is tasked with evaluating claims made against the Commonwealth and its employees, and determining after investigation and research whether to litigate the case.

"Rejecting a claim where legal defenses exist does not turn the Office of the Attorney General into a cartoonish Disney villain," he said.

Brasington cited several other plaintiffs' statements that according to him are scandalous.

Elameto and Pua, are suing the CNMI government

and two former CHC doctors Rajee Iyer and Gary Ramsey for medical malpractice, bad faith, and emotional distress and loss of consortium.

Elameto and Pua asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Elameto claimed that a surgical team at CHC allegedly left a 15-centimeter long surgical clamp in her abdomen during a surgery to address her irregular periods and ovarian cysts at CHC on Saipan in August 2000.

Elameto disclosed that it was in June 2014 or almost 14 years later when the surgical clamp was discovered and removed at

Guam Memorial Hospital.

The government, through OAG, then moved to dismiss the lawsuit.

The OAG argued, among other things, that according to the Commonwealth statute of limitations for medical malpractice, the following actions shall be commenced only within two years after the cause of action accrues—"actions for malpractice, error, or mistake against physicians, surgeons, dentists, medical or dental practitioners, and medical or dental assistants."

The plaintiffs, through counsel Claire Kelleher-Smith, opposed the motion to dismiss. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

CNMI Civil Service Commission appreciates Torres' strong support

Valerie Apatang, Civil Service commissioner representing Rota, speaking during a Civil Service Commission session last week praised Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his support of the CNMI Government's Civil Service employees.

"The governor has strongly supported the commission in its efforts to improve the employment situation for government employees. This past May the governor concurred with the commission's continued efforts to reinstate the annual within-grade increase program and lifted the freeze. The Civil Service Commission, on behalf of the government's civil service employees, thanks him for this action."

The commission further commends Torres for his additional actions in support of the commission's efforts to maintain and strengthen the Commonwealth's Equal Employment Opportunity Program.

By the issuance of his Equal Employment Opportunity directive in June of this year, the governor expressed his direction that all Commonwealth employees be treated fairly and in an unbiased manner and be ensured the opportuni-

ty to enjoy the rights and protections provided by federal and CNMI laws.

Most recently in his Cabinet meeting, Torres stressed to government department heads the necessity of conducting performance evaluations and recognizing and rewarding exceptional performance. This support comes at the same time the commission's Office of Personnel Management is revising the existing performance rating reports to assist supervisors in more effectively evaluating and documenting employee performance.

"It's clear that the governor has the employees' best interests in mind," Civil Service Commission chair Herman Deleon Guerrero stated. "He has shown his support for the commission in its initiatives on behalf of the civil service employees to include reviving the annual within-grade increase program and the new salary schedule, recently approved by the House of Representatives and now with the Senate. The commission appreciates his continuing support and the progress being made to acknowledge government employees' contributions." *(PR)*

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Guam leader OKs bill ending time limits in child sex cases

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo said Friday he signed a bill that would lift the statute of limitations on child sex abuse charges for civil cases, a move that Catholic leaders say could bankrupt the church in the largely Catholic U.S. territory.

The bill, which does not apply to criminal prosecutions, was approved by the Legislature after abuse allegations surfaced against Archbishop Anthony Apuron.

Church leaders say lifting the statute of limitations would subject the church to

unlimited financial liability, forcing the closure of parish churches and schools on the island where more than three quarters of Guam's 162,000 residents are Roman Catholics.

Calvo acknowledged in an open letter to the people of Guam that he wasn't sure if the measure's retroactive application could withstand a legal challenge.

Apuron, now 70, has been accused of molesting at least five altar boys in the 1960s and 70s. He has denied the allegations and hasn't been



Roland Sondia, 54, stands next to the statue of Saint John Paul II in Hagatna, Guam on Friday, Sept. 23, 2016.

charged with any crime.

His lawyer hasn't returned repeated messages left by The Associated Press.

In response to the allegations, the Vatican appointed Archbishop Savio Hon as temporary apostolic administrator for Guam.

While in Rome discuss-

ing the matter, he sent a letter home urging parishioners to sign a petition against the bill. In the letter, which priests read out loud during Mass on Sunday, he promised a canonical trial for Apuron.

Despite that, Hon issued a statement thanking the governor for his action, reiterating a

Church apology to sex abuse victims, and pledging funds to help people who have suffered such abuse by clergy.

In the letter, Calvo said he was "saddened that even a single injustice had to happen in order to make this law necessary. There are no winners. Justice is the only victory."

He added that he was resolute in his decision, saying the legislation opens "the doors of justice to those who suffered a terrible harm as children."

Roland Sondia, 54, who earlier this year publicly accused Apuron of molesting him when he was a 15-year-old altar boy, said he would now file a lawsuit.

"We all want justice," he said.

Carolinian Utt hosts Family Fun Day

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Carolinian Affairs Office, along with others from the business community, reached out to the public through a day of fun and games known as the Family Fun Day last Saturday in celebration of the Cultural Heritage Month at the Carolinian Utt.

Cultural Heritage Month's entertainment sub-committee chair Gus Kaipat shares that the day was a perfect day for having some fun in the sun with friends and families.

"I think that today is a good time for us to invite families over and celebrate the culture and heritage instead of just staying home. We would like to bring the entire community out here to engage in the celebration," said Kaipat.

Along with catch-the-pig, in which a pig is greased and allowed to run around a fence while children try to catch it, organizers held other games.

"We have all these nice games that were set up for young people to engage in, such as catch-the-pig, canoe races, and all other types of challenging games for the younger ones," shared Kaipat.

Kaipat shared that the turnout of the Family Fun Day was pretty good, despite the afternoon shower.

"I think the turnout is very successful, this is the first time that I have been part of this event in so many years and this is also one of the highlights of the Cultural Heritage Month. We definitely look forward to having it again next year," said Kaipat.

Kaipat saw the opportunity to invite people for the Uumw Chaha Night next Friday, Sept. 30.

"Aside from Family Fun Day, our last event, the Uumw Chaha Night, which means underground oven, basically means that we would be roasting meat. We would like to invite the entire community to come and join us on that day. It's a Friday, and it's going to be held at the Carolinian Utt from 5pm to 10pm."




Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



NOTICE TO NMHC'S HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS RECIPIENTS

According to Article 12(A)(ii) of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's (NMHC) By-Laws, one (1) board member out of the eight (8) total board of directors must be a recipient of one of the housing assistance programs administered by NMHC. If you are a recipient of HUD's Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), New Construction Program (multifamily under Mihaville or Koblerville), HOME Program, or Neighborhood Stabilization Program and are interested in serving as a board member to assist and guide NMHC in the administration of its housing and community development mandates, please submit a notice of intent along with your background information on or before Friday, September 30, 2016, at NMHC's office in Garapan, Saipan. The NMHC Board of Directors will then select the board member to serve a one (1) year term.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, or Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director.



Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 237-6824 ext. 23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENTS FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES NMC SOQ 16-001

Northern Marianas College is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform Project Management Services for work related to the planning, design and construction/renovation phases associated with NMC Capital Improvement Projects and ongoing Typhoon Soudelor Recovery efforts. The selected firm(s) will provide Project Management Services and other Professional and Technical Capacity Services as required for the completion of assigned NMC Capital Improvement Projects including the design and construction of a new multi-level building to house classrooms and direct student support programs on the As Terlaje, Saipan Campus.

The Request for Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) Package is available at NMC, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd floor. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualifications statement must be submitted in electronic or written form no later than 4:30 Pm, September 23, 2016 CST.

Interested firms shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies no later than 10:00am, **October 14, 2016, NMC Procurement & Property Management Office**, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:


1. Overall PM experience in the Pacific area and especially the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island; - 30 Points
2. PM Experience related to Higher Education Campus Facilities; - 30 Points
3. Level of proficiency in performing PM services promptly; and level of experience with local and federal regulations and requirements; - 20 Points
4. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable; - 20 Points

Discussions may be conducted with selected firms regarding agreement requirements and technical approach and a selection made there, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Firm or Company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the College. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all statement of professional qualification for any reason if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement Manager, NMC
/s/ David J. Attao
Interim President, NMC

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INVITATION TO BID

ITB16-MOT-136

Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building

Mayor of Tinian Joey Patrick San Nicolas is soliciting sealed bids for the Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building (Formerly Tinian NMC Building). The project package will be available on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference and site inspection for this project on Thursday, September 22, 2016, 10:00AM ChST at the project site, San Jose, Tinian. Bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the project location and current condition. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST, Monday, October 3, 2016 to the CIP Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors. Non-representation of bidders in the pre-bid conference will be considered non-responsive and his/her bid shall not be considered.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB16-MOT-136, Renovation of Tinian Delegation Building". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 11, 2016. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 11, 2016 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Tuesday, October 11, 2016 and must be received no later than Tuesday, October 18, 2016 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday, October 18, 2016. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday October 11, 2016.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Government Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Two Hundred dollars (\$200.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by One Hundred Fifty (150) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Joey Patrick San Nicolas,
Tinian Mayor
Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

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NMTI Gala well received by community

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institution's inaugural gala held last Friday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan was well received by the community.

The goal of the NMTI Gala was not only to raise funds for the school, but also to inform the community that the trades and technical school is a good place to jumpstart their careers.

"[NMTI wants] the young people to see that vocational/

technical school is not for dummies. It's a program that will help us to build the economy of the CNMI," said NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres.

The NMTI raised funds for the financing of various programs that train individuals in certain skills, skills that are usually outsourced by businesses.

"Without the collaboration of the community and the business community, the program is not going to work. Major programs such as construction trades, different types

of branches such as carpentry, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, welding, all of those things," said McPhetres. "We also have the hotel and restaurant operations," she added. "Our students, when they graduate, hopefully they can build a house, or they can be a fine carpenter, or they can service air-cons (air-conditioning units)."

McPhetres shared that what makes NMTI unique is that after the training, students are required to intern in a business establishment that is in the

same industry.

"One of the unique parts of our program is that not only do we do it inside the classroom; after they complete instruction they go out for 240 hours as an intern in the different business, hotels, and eatery places."

NMTI Continuing Education & Workforce Development director Ross Manglona shares that the NMTI Gala 2017 would be held at a different time next year.

"Next year we would be holding the gala earlier in April because it is too close

to the Green Gala, the Red Cross, so we want to give our stakeholders the opportunity to breathe a bit," he said.

Manglona claims that NMTI, with the constant support of the community, would be adding new courses depending on the demand of the CNMI. "We celebrate the growth of the institute, and we celebrate the fact that a lot of people have helped us along the way, and the fact that they continue to patronize our institute and help us grow further," said Man-

glona. "Also to offer more courses, one of the courses that we are looking into is bookkeeping. Right now we're seeing from our stakeholders that there is not a real need for accountants, but a major need for bookkeepers to maintain these small business. And that is something that the NMTI is looking at," he added.

The NMTI Gala raised approximately \$20,000 minus expenses. Funds would be used for expansion, financing, and growth of the NMTI.



ERWIN ENCINARES

McDonald's Saipan's Jose Ayuyu Sr. with wife Marcia and family with Ivan Blanco during the inaugural NMTI Gala at Hyatt Regency Saipan last Sept. 23.



ERWIN ENCINARES

A full house of guests by the poolside at Hyatt Regency Saipan attending the inaugural NMTI Gala



ERWIN ENCINARES

Commonwealth Casino Commission chair Juan Sablan with NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres and CUC board treasurer Joe Torres pose for a photo.



ERWIN ENCINARES

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) with wife Daisy pose for a picture at the inaugural NMTI Gala.



ERWIN ENCINARES

Perry Babauta Borja, who was awarded with the Anthony Pellegrino award in recognition of student accomplishments, poses for a picture with his father, NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres, and Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board treasurer Joe Torres.



ERWIN ENCINARES

Attendees of the inaugural NMTI Gala dance the night away after drinks and the buffet.

MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER SOUDELOR:

How CARE responds to typhoon-related needs

After the announcement of a \$500,000 commitment from the CNMI government, acceptance of a \$200,000 donation from Best Sunshine International, Ltd., execution of a week of anniversary events including SOU' Fest, and the arrival of off-island volunteers (World Renew and Mennonite Disaster Services) secured by CARE to repair and rebuild homes still damaged from the typhoon, CARE is excited to celebrate how a year's worth of effort has transformed into positive impacts for our island.

This increased publicity also spawned many questions on how CARE supports families still impacted by disaster.

Foremost, CARE CNMI is a cross-sector network of community partners that came together in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor to build community resiliency and address the long-term unmet needs of individuals and families impacted by disaster.

After months of debris removal immediately after the storm, CARE's efforts shifted thanks to a partnership with the Red Cross Disaster Case Management team (DCM), a Federal Emergency Management Administration-funded program where case workers outreach directly to families, assess their unmet needs, and work with CARE to acquire the resources necessary to fulfill these unmet needs caused by Typhoon Soudelor. The Red Cross DCM team and CARE work hand in hand: DCM case workers identify the needs of clients, and then CARE finds the resources to fulfill their unmet needs.

During the first nine months of the Red Cross DCM program, up to 20 caseworkers were outreaching to families to identify who was still in need

after Typhoon Soudelor. First, FEMA sent the contact information of 8,000 households who had applied for FEMA assistance to the DCM team to follow-up on their cases. Then the DCM team made 3,000-5,000 calls a week outreaching to families. Other DCM clients who had not applied for FEMA started to hear about the program through word of mouth, and calls continued to come through the hotline. After months of outreach, over 4,000 households opened a case with the Red Cross DCM team.

A thorough case management screening process ensures clients who receive resources have true unmet needs and that the organization responsibly expends its limited resources. Once a household makes contact with the DCM team, they are assigned a case manager. The client meets face-to-face with their case manager to identify what was lost due to Typhoon Soudelor. If a loss is reported, the manager opens a case for the household and conducts a home visit to verify the need.

After the need is verified, the case manager first reaches out to FEMA and attempts an appeal so the household can receive more FEMA assistance. If FEMA states they have funded all damages for the household or if the family is FEMA in-eligible, the case manager reaches out to other local social service organizations, such as Empty Vessel or Karidat, to see if their typhoon-related need can be met.

Once a case manager refers the client to other agencies and confirms the household has exhausted all community and personal resources, the case manager assesses if there is still an unmet need. If the

need has been addressed, the client's case closes. If there is still an unmet need, the case manager refers the client to CARE, the organization dedicated to acquiring resources for these clients.

To receive assistance, the Red Cross disaster case manager presents the client's case to the CARE Unmet Needs Table (UNT). The UNT is a governing board of community members who care deeply about both helping families and responsibly using CARE's limited resources to service the community.

Case managers present unidentified information to the UNT, meaning the decision-makers never know the name, immigration status, or heritage of a client when approving his or her request. Data presented includes information on living conditions, the household's level of vulnerability, if a member of the household is under age 3 or over age 65, or if a member of the household has a physical or mental disability. All these factors help determine a family's urgency of need and prioritization of assistance.

Cases are presented to the UNT whenever resources are available. To date, CARE has awarded \$224,000 in building materials through the Unmet Needs Table to approximately 100 households.

After funding approval by the UNT, the case manager goes with the client to purchase materials using a voucher. CARE purchases all materials directly; cash funds are not awarded to clients. The case manager then stays up-to-date with the client's progress. The case closes when the case manager visits the home a final time and verifies there are no longer unmet needs.

During the first year of operation, CARE only had the capacity to provide building materials to families who had repair and rebuild needs. Now that CARE has secured long-term volunteers from Mennonite Disaster Services and World Renew through a FEMA-awarded grant, CARE can provide labor assistance for households unable to se-

cure labor.

As of May 2015, clients registered under the Red Cross DCM program had an estimated \$11 million of unmet needs due to Typhoon Soudelor. CARE and its network partners are continuing to strive toward addressing all unmet needs related to disaster, one family at a time.

CARE is building a more

resilient community by facilitating coordination between network partners, business and government leaders, and community volunteers; identifying unmet needs; and delivering long-term support to those most impacted by disaster. For more information, go to www.carecnmi.org and "Like" us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carecnmi. (PR)



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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Malou Berueco. Greetings from your DPA family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happiest birthday to the No. 1 dad in the world Stanley Santos. May the Lord bless you on your special day and for all the years to come. We wish you all the best of the best because we all know hāgu real and you're the only one that can make a difference. We love you forever, Daddy. God bless you with 43 years cheers! From: Your loving wife Zenaida, children, and grandchildren.



Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

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EDITORIAL

A Charlotte we didn't, but should, recognize

These are the streets we walk during weekdays, the intersections we pass on the way to our uptown jobs. These are the streets we walk with our families on the way to basketball and football games, or with friends who come to see the place we live. "What a clean city," they tell us.

Did you recognize those streets, Charlotte? We watched them on national news Wednesday night from our living rooms and other safe places. Tear gas popped and windows shattered. Analysts commented on the best police tactics to disperse rioters. "This is not the Charlotte I know," people tweeted. "This is not who we are."

But it's who we are right now.

This week, Charlotte became one more visibly troubled city in America, another place that's endured violent protests in the wake of a shooting involving police and a black person. Our city may be different from Ferguson or Baltimore, and our police have been progressive in building relationships with communities here. But Charlotte shares something with so many U.S. cities and towns — that blacks feel threatened in their interactions with law enforcement, and powerless in other ways.

No, that shouldn't be expressed with lawlessness, as it was in uptown and elsewhere this week. But we shouldn't dismiss those who protest peacefully because of the senselessness of those who don't. The pain behind those legitimate protests is real, and we must confront it with real dialogue and real prescriptions on issues like economic mobility and school achievement gaps.

We are equipped to do that here. We've long brought people together in Charlotte to tackle difficult challenges and engage in difficult conversations. We're continuing many of those conversations even now.

That's important, that last part. We are a city that perpetually tries to be better, not only in constructing those uptown buildings but in working on foundational issues like diversity and equality. There's a lot of that work to do, of course. But for the most part, we at least want to try.

We saw that in moments this week. We saw it in police who behaved with courage and restraint in the face of antagonistic, destructive demonstrators. We saw it in people like Toussaint Romain, a public defender in Charlotte who put on a white shirt and tie Wednesday and placed himself between the protesters and police in an effort to calm the growing tension.

Those aren't isolated things in Charlotte. Our police department and black leaders have done the right kind of work to encourage dialogue. Our city and county officials care about fixing the core problems that plague distressed neighborhoods. So do many other Charlotteans.

That's who we are, too.

Maybe that's not the Charlotte that America took away from the coverage they watched this week, but we probably spend too much time worrying about that.

Now is the time to spend on ourselves. The uptown protests will end eventually, and these streets will clean up nicely soon enough. But the pain behind the legitimate protests will remain. We can't ignore it. We shouldn't dismiss it. We should understand that what we've seen this week is a reminder, and an opportunity. We need to walk these streets, together.

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Hillary's foreign policy

When Hillary Clinton faces off against Donald Trump in Monday's debate, security issues will be high on the agenda.

In a year when terrorism dominates headlines, this issue is crucial. In a rational world, Clinton would dominate, given her broad experience and his ferocious display of ignorance.

Yet the public seems strangely split on her security chops, giving her only a narrow 1 to 3 percent edge over Trump in mid-September polls on handling terrorism and homeland security.

Perhaps that's because Trump's brash talk (minus any specifics) about instantly crushing the Islamic State has popular appeal when lone wolves set off bombs in American suburbs. It may be because Clinton has failed to convey an image of a leader who is tougher than President Obama yet free from the hollow aggressiveness of Trump.

The good news for Clinton (and America) is that the public does seem to grasp the danger of letting a man of Trump's mercurial temperament command our forces or have his finger on the nuclear button. A CNN poll released Sept. 20 showed a 51 percent to 25 percent preference for Clinton when it comes to being in charge of nuclear weapons and gave her a similar margin for being a good commander in chief (50 to 39 percent). Recent polls also hand her a substantial edge on handling foreign policy in general.

So why is the margin so close on dealing with terrorism and national security?

It's not so surprising that, in this rapidly changing world, even many Americans yearn for a strongman. And Trump appeals to voters who believe Obama has left the country more vulnerable.

However, despite years in the public eye, Clinton's image as a foreign policy leader is still blurry. Never mind her constant references to her role in the Bin Laden raid. She seems unable to define herself as hawk, dove, or in between.

During the 2008 primary, Clinton advocated a more muscular approach to foreign policy — and diplomacy — than did Obama. But as secretary of state, she was consistently overruled by the White House, notably her push to arm moderate Syrian

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

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rebels in 2012.

These days, however, Clinton clearly feels she must downplay her onetime image as Hillary Hawk in order to woo Obama supporters — and Berniacs. She has tamped down some of her internationalist positions, for example on trade, for the same reasons.

Meantime, Trump thumps on her vote for the Iraq war (which he also supported, despite lies to the contrary) in hopes of picking off some of those same Bernie supporters. Clinton responds by saying she would "never again" send ground troops to Iraq.

Yet a look at Clinton's foreign policy positions past and present indicates she would be a more forward-leaning leader on the world stage than Obama, while displaying none of the recklessness of the Donald.

Yes, Clinton pushed Obama to back the Libyan adventure, which turned out badly. Yet that case is far from black and white. Arab and European allies pressed America to stop a prospective slaughter that would have sent a tsunami of refugees fleeing to Europe and Arab countries. True, things didn't work as expected. But reckless, Clinton is not.

On the other hand, although Trump portrays himself as "Mr. Tough," he is really an isolationist whose loose lips could provoke a war he never intended. He talks carelessly of abandoning key U.S. ties with NATO and Asian allies and starting global trade wars. This would weaken America, even as a nationalist Russia and China seek to expand their reach and undermine U.S. interests. Trump is clueless in his flattery of Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping and his assumption that he could make them swallow

See HILLARY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

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The difference between the Bushes and Trump

It's hard to be a Bush these days. Liberals still condemn the most recent President Bush for "lying us into war" in Iraq. Even if you credit George W. Bush with benign intentions, his record is undeniably grim. In foreign policy, fiscal policy and much else — including its catastrophic inattention to the aims and capabilities of Osama bin Laden and to the desperate pleas of a drowning city — his administration was mostly a disaster.

Jeb Bush, meanwhile, is easily mocked. He raised (and his super PAC spent) an enormous sum in pursuit of the 2016 Republican presidential nomination. The famed "Bush family network" was activated. Yet the candidate was flat-footed and outmatched in debate against an opponent who proved spectacularly ignorant of public issues and whose most sophisticated techniques amounted to playground taunts. Bush's remarkable fundraising and unquestioned expertise got him nowhere.

Then there's Poppy. George H.W. Bush is 92 now, a remnant of a political era long passed. The news — occasioned by an indiscreet Kennedy no less — that he intends to vote for Hillary Clinton rather than his party's nominee is likely welcome in Donald Trump's camp. An old, out-of-touch blue blood who summers in Kennebunkport and embodies the ethos of an internationalist corporate and diplomatic elite is a perfect foil for Trump's crude aggression.

Supporting the Bushes in their opposition to Trump requires defining what it is that Bush-like politicians are supposed to possess that Trump so thoroughly lacks. Expertise is the obvious first answer. (Even the least competent of the three, George W., had been governor of a large state.) Decorum is another. But the Bush resistance to their party's nominee appears grounded in political morality, which is more difficult to parse, and defend.

After all, who are these Bushes to convey distaste for the rough-and-tumble of Trump's ambition? Are they offended by

Trump's raw, racist appeals? George H.W. Bush gave us a racist meme, courtesy of professional race-baiter (and late-inning penitent) Lee Atwater, that endures decades after the 1988 campaign in which it was unleashed: "Willie Horton."

George W. Bush's 2000 campaign in South Carolina spread racist rumors about the family of Bush's opponent, Senator John McCain.

And these people think they're too pure for Trump's brand of politics?

It's difficult to explain why the answer to that question is a resounding, unequivocal "Yes."

It requires resort to context and motive and relativism. It occupies a gray, middling realm in a political environment dominated by magnetic poles of black and white. It's a challenge similar to differentiating Hillary Clinton's occasional tactical dissembling and even rarer personal fibs from Trump's habitual dishonesty about nearly everything — the state of the nation and the world, his record, his business and wealth, his opponents, his plans, objective reality.

It's far easier to say, "Both candidates lie."

The Bushes have been ambitious men. They have amassed wealth. They wanted power. They sought acclaim. They occasionally sunk low in pursuit of these things.

In that, they are no different from Trump. What separates them, and no doubt inspires their contempt for Trump, is that they are more than the sum of their personal appetites. George H.W. Bush nearly died in service to his country. He served in various government and party capacities, developing expertise over many decades that enlarged his character and informed his presidency.

Jeb Bush was a successful two-term governor of one of the nation's largest and most complex states, navigating diverse constituencies and thorny issues. He developed a reputation as a capable policy wonk. After his governorship he got rich. But

By **FRANCIS WILKINSON**

Bloomberg View

Francis Wilkinson writes editorials on politics and U.S. domestic policy for Bloomberg View. He was executive editor of the Week. He was previously a national affairs writer for Rolling Stone, a communications consultant and a political media strategist.



he also continued to educate himself in preparation for a higher office that, he understood, demands higher qualities.

George W. Bush was the least distinguished of the three. But if he was crushed by the weight of his office at a critical time in history, it was partly because he tried to shoulder that weight to begin with. He believed it was his responsibility to carry the nation, not just himself.

Over seven full decades, Trump's selfishness has never been tempered by service or even the barest preparation for service. Whatever you think of the Bush men, it's inconceivable that they would design a fake university dedicated to ripping off poor people who were desperate for a leg up. They would not establish a sham foundation to advance their personal interests under the guise of public spiritedness. And it's impossible to imagine any of them waging the relentless race-based campaign that Trump has run from the moment he announced his candidacy. To the Bushes, the presidency was more than a prize to be captured and exploited for personal gain and self-aggrandizement.

You have to be personally ambitious, occasionally ruthless, to seek the presidency, and to win it. Each of the Bush men, in turn, fit that bill. But you don't have to be sleazy or a demagogue. That's where a family of presidents parts ways with Donald Trump.

Hands against the wall, black Chicago voters—Trump is reaching out to you

I have great news for black voters in Chicago: Donald Trump is reaching out to you!

Yes, the Republican presidential candidate whose campaign CEO up until recently ran a right-wing news(ish) website that has an entire section dedicated to "black crime," is trying very hard to connect with black voters, particularly here in the Windy City.

Trump cares so much about you that he held a town hall at a black church in Cleveland, hosted by noted black-issues expert and Fox News host Sean Hannity. (Hannity is well known for comparing the Black Lives Matter movement to the Ku Klux Klan and for stirring up racial fear by pushing the false narrative that young black men nationwide play something called "the knockout game" where they run up and attack random white people.)

At the town hall event, Trump said how he would address crime in black communities: "One of the things I'd do is I would do stop-and-frisk. I think you have to. We did it in New York, it worked incredibly well."

That's correct except that there's no proof it actually worked well and a federal judge ruled it unconstitutional and a large study by the New York Civil Liberties Union found that people

of color were disproportionately targeted.

Thursday morning, Trump clarified on "Fox & Friends" that he was only talking about implementing a stop-and-frisk program in Chicago, noting that: "They will stop, they will frisk, and they will take the gun away and they won't have anything to shoot with."

Problem solved! I'm not sure why we didn't think of this sooner, though it may have something to do with the fact that there was no correlation between New York City's stop-and-frisk program and a drop in crime and, in fact, according to the Washington Post, "in four of the past five years, levels of crime fell alongside the number of stop-and-frisks."

But who cares about numbers. There's something about stop-and-frisk that feels right to Trump. And he's a winner who knows how to get things done, so I'm sure black voters will agree.

Geoff Betts, a black man who attended Trump's town hall, gave Reuters his reaction: "I just couldn't take it anymore, I had to go. I don't think that Donald Trump gets it."

Well, maybe that's because Betts doesn't live in Chicago and he feels jealous that Trump wants our city to be the stop-and-frisk capital of America.

She has also showed her chops as a tough negotiator, putting together the international sanctions that forced Iran to the negotiating table. She has pledged to firmly hold Tehran to every detail of the deal, unlike the White House, which has permitted the Iranians to take advantage of loopholes. As for Trump, he wants to scuttle the Iran deal, which would permit Iran to rush right up to the nuclear threshold — thus confronting Americans with the prospect of another Middle East war.

Which brings us to the challenge of terrorism. Clinton sounds bureaucratic when she talks of strengthening security in American communities and involving local Muslim Americans in the process. Trump alienates those communities with outlandish proposals like profiling all Muslims. In the long run, Clinton is

By **REX HUPPKE**

Chicago Tribune



I'm sure we'll learn more about this great idea, but let's first let Trump continue his outreach.

If you're a black Chicago voter, please stop for a minute. Mr. Trump is going to come a little closer to reach out to you.

Actually, it would make this easier if you would just face the wall and put your hands up there and maybe spread your legs a bit. That's good. Now Trump's going to reach out to you.

You might feel like you're being patted down, but don't worry, that's just part of the outreach.

Hey, what do we have here in your pocket, is that a gun? Oh, never mind, it's just a phone.

Move along.

on the right track.

Of course, her foreign policy record isn't flawless. Her staff choices have not always been wise. But she has a strong bench to choose from, unlike Trump, who has no foreign policy team at all and believes he doesn't need one.

If she can break through Trumpian barbs and blather, Clinton could convey an image of a woman who can conduct tough diplomacy but project a credible threat of force — as a last resort, if needed. And not just drones.

In the upcoming debates, she needs to project an image of a strong, capable, responsible foreign policy leader — in contrast to Trump's bombast. That is the territory she must claim for herself.

HILLARY






From Page 10

his "deals."

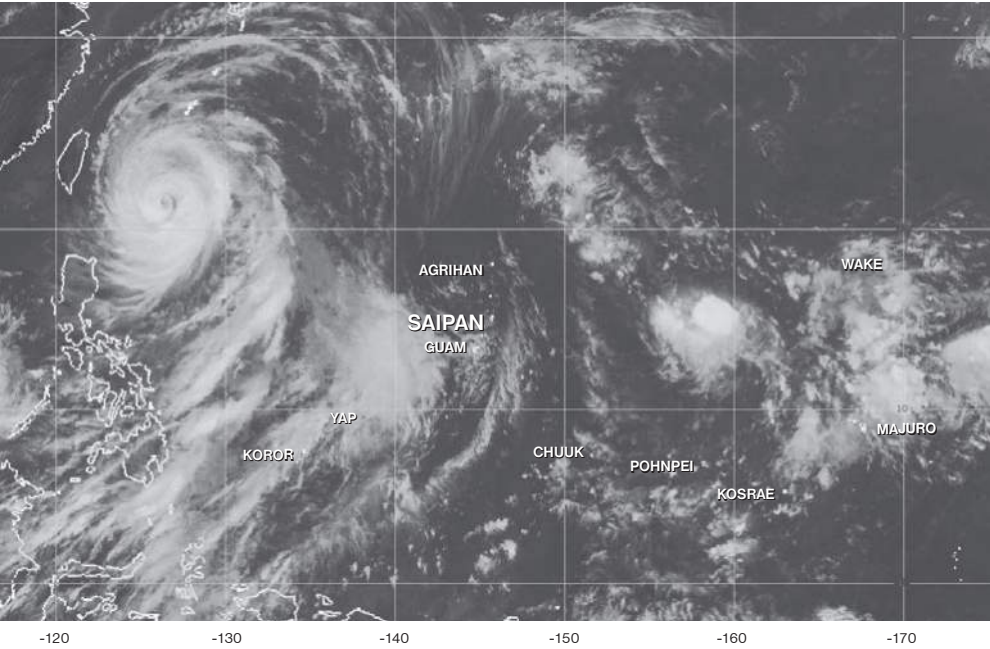
Clinton, on the other hand, wants to strengthen America's alliances in Europe and Asia. Contrary to the rap on her Russian "reset," she recognized early on that Putin only understood strength and recognized bluffing. For example, in Syria in 2012, she argued — along with Obama's other top security officials — that the Russian leader would never press Damascus to end to the conflict unless Washington strengthened moderate rebels. Obama demurred.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:07 AM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Northwest winds aloft show the presence of the upper-level low. It is already making itself known in Tinian and Saipan with thunderstorms. These thunderstorms could easily spread to Guam and Rota so added isolated thunderstorms for the Today and Tonight periods. Based on a reasonably good satellite presentation and fairly good agreement in the ECMWF-HiRes and GFS (not to mention the fact that it is wet season), tried to pick the most likely period for rain and added scattered showers during that time.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Palau	Afternoon clouds	81 / 87 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	80 / 90 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	78 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	78 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Morning clouds	81 / 87 °F
Majuro	Partly sunny	83 / 87 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Mostly cloudy	54 / 63 °F
Beijing	Decreasing cloudiness	56 / 76 °F
Hong Kong	Morning clouds	82 / 94 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	74 / 82 °F
London	Morning clouds	58 / 69 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	70 / 88 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	81 / 86 °F
Melbourne	Sunny	46 / 60 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	76 / 85 °F
New York	Morning clouds	63 / 72 °F
Osaka	Afternoon clouds	71 / 88 °F
Paris	Decreasing cloudiness	52 / 67 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	72 / 84 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	54 / 78 °F
Salem	Morning clouds	55 / 74 °F
San Francisco	Mostly sunny	56 / 75 °F
Seoul	Heavy rain	68 / 79 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	71 / 83 °F
Washington, DC	Cloudy	57 / 70 °F



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
4:13 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.65 Feet
11:11 AM	LOW TIDE	0.08 Feet
5:57 PM	HIGH TIDE	182 Feet
11:56 PM	LOW TIDE	0.81 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	2:44 AM	3:38 PM
Wednesday	3:36 AM	4:21 PM
Thursday	4:27 AM	5:03 PM
Friday	5:16 AM	5:42 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:21 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
			5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club donates sports equipment to MHS

Marianas High School has received a donation of sports equipment from the Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club in commemorating the organization's Centennial Service Challenge with a project that engages in youth activity.

Club president Annamae Adaza together with the Lions Region 2 chair Ladyvir Canape, Zone chair Mario Mayuga, and other club members participated in the turnover of the donation to MHS principal Charlene Cabrera last Tuesday at the MHS campus.

"This donation will help promote an active lifestyle among our students," said Cabrera, while appreciating the effort made by the Lions Club and the Saipan Marianas Alpha Leo Club.

Cabrera informed the donors that during the Typhoon Soudelor the basketball rim at the outdoor court and the school gym were damaged and its full repair is not expected until January next year. In the meantime, the students can use outdoor sports facilities through the donated sports equipment.

Lions around the world support this special service dedicated to mentoring, empowering, and engaging youth through community service. The Leo Club officers them-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club and Saipan Marianas Alpha Leo Club officers and members pose with the sports equipment they donated to Marianas High School. Second from right is MHS principal Charlene Cabrera, while eighth from left is Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club president Annamae Adaza.

Service Challenge goal of serving more than 100 million people.

The Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club is trying to charter another club in which they are looking for local members as partners in doing some projects for the CNMI. There will be an orientation for all prospective members and it's so timely since the 2017 Lions Clubs International District 204 Convention will be held on Saipan on March 11, 2017. To those interested please call club president Annamae Adaza at 483-5237 or club secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021. **(PR)**

selves came up with the idea to inspire their fellow youth to engage in sports activity and recommended the purchase of sports equipment for MHS, including volleyball sets, basketballs, and footballs.

Several members of the Saipan Marianas Alpha Leo Club, led by its president Ramhae Andrea Awit of Dandan Middle School, were on hand during the turnover ceremony.

The Lions Clubs International aims to promote young

people to have the power to affect change alongside Lions if given the opportunity. The key to youth engagement is to empower them to have a voice in the decision making process as a way to impact youth

in the community and around the globe.

Club PRO Cherry Beth Casila added, "Youth involvement and their voices are valuable in the community service and adult members benefit

from the fresh perspective and enthusiasm they bring to the table."

This is designed to inspire the next generation of volunteers and help reach the Lions Clubs' Centennial

Marianas Alliance for Non-Governmental Organizations elected its new set of officers during its general membership meeting last Sept. 21 at the office of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.

Elected were John Oliver DLR Gonzales, chairman; Frances M. Sablan, co-vice chairperson; Maisie B. Tenorio, co-vice chairper-

MANGO elects new officers

son; William Fife, treasurer; Maxine Laselo, secretary; and Emma Perez, public relations officer.

MANGO's principal purpose is to serve as an umbrella organization and resource for CNMI non-profits to promote and provide leadership, advocacy, educational awareness, and technical assistance to its

members and the community.

Plans for 2017 include increasing membership and networking opportunities, surveying membership needs and providing regular training and technical assistance based on those needs, and officially joining the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (PIANGO),

a regional network of NGO focal points or coordinating bodies known as National Liaison Units (NLUs) based in 22 Pacific Island countries and territories.

MANGO is inviting all non-profit organizations in the CNMI to join. The annual membership fee is \$20. For more information please email cnmimango@gmail.com. **(PR)**

The Pacific Way: Bringing the region to your homes

SUVA, Fiji—Expect more dynamic stories about development in the Pacific to hit television screens across the region starting this week, following the regional launch of the 2016 season of the Pacific Community's (SPC) flagship television programme, The Pacific Way.

The new season of the popular television programme was officially launched by SPC's Deputy Director-General, Dr. Audrey Aumua, and television partner, Fiji Television Limited's Chief Executive Officer, Geoffrey Smith, at SPC's Regional Office in Nabua, Fiji, today.

The event, attended by the organisation's staff and representatives from development partners and media organisations, was hosted by prominent media personality and the show's longtime anchor, Lenora Qereqeretabua.

"The Pacific Way has a proud history of presenting informative and entertaining content about the Pacific Islands, for the Pacific Islands, like no other TV show," Aumua said at the launch.

"The show continues to be a great platform that allows

us Pacific Islanders to share our heritage, our development challenges, our opportunities and our knowledge on issues that affect our region, our nations and our homes," Dr Aumua added.

The production of the The Pacific Way began in 1995 with seed funding provided by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

It started as a trial for exchanging news stories, with one tape being circulated between the Cook Islands, Niue and Fiji but has since evolved into a weekly half-hour programme that is distributed to 19 television stations across the Pacific.

"The Pacific Way was one of the first programs we aired on Fiji One when we started in 1995 and 21 years on, the show continues to enable us to deliver compelling content about the Pacific to our audience," Smith said.

The Pacific Way will broadcast on Fiji Television Limited's Fiji One Channel at 8:15pm on Friday's starting on Sept. 30.

Please check local TV guides for when the show will air near you. **(PR)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Alliance for Non-Governmental Organizations' new set of officers pose for a group photo. From left, Emma Perez, public relations officer; Maxine Laselo, secretary; Frances M. Sablan, co-vice chair; Maisie B. Tenorio, co-vice chair; and William Fife, treasurer.

OPA to conduct presentation on campaign finance, reporting

The Office of the Public Auditor will be conducting presentations on campaign finance and reporting on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. The dates and times for each of the presentations are as follows:

Saipan: Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016

6pm-8pm
Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Rota: Monday, Oct. 3, 2016
5pm-7pm

Northern Marianas College-
Rota Campus

Tinian: Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016

1pm-3pm
Northern Marianas College-

Tinian Campus

Given the statutory restrictions relating to campaign spending and reporting, all candidates and their treasurers are strongly urged to attend. **(PR)**

Business

US guidelines on self-driving cars get good reception at G-7

TOKYO (AP)—U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said Sunday that his counterparts in the Group of Seven nations welcomed U.S. guidelines on regulating self-driving cars and have agreed to work together on creating such standards to maintain safety.

“There was actually a very enthusiastic reception to the policy,” he said. “We did a good job of inventorying what each country is doing and laying out areas that we want to explore further.”

Such issues include cybersecurity, ethics and privacy, wireless spectrum questions and many other issues, he said, while noting that reaching a resolution might take years, meaning the technology would be moving faster. Foxx called the U.S. guidelines released earlier this month the most comprehensive on autonomous vehicles, coming out ahead of the rest of the world.

Foxx and other transportation officials from the G-7 met over the weekend in the Japanese resort town of Karuizawa. Speaking by telephone with The Associated Press, Foxx stressed road tests on autonomous vehicles must continue to encourage innovation.

U.S. electric car maker Tesla's Model S that was using the semi-autonomous mode crashed in May. The driver



Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx speaks during a news conference about self-driving cars, Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016, in Washington.

died after crashing into a tractor-trailer. Tesla is introducing improvements to its Autopilot system to make it safer.

“One of the things I think that autonomous vehicles suffer from is that they get compared to perfection, and not to the 94 percent of car crashes that are attributable to human factors. We have to make the right comparisons,” Foxx said, while declining comment on the ongoing investigation on Tesla. “These vehicles will not be absolutely perfect in terms of having no accidents, but by

comparison they can be markedly better.”

Many automakers besides Tesla are testing or have rolled out automated vehicles, including Ford Motor Co., based in Dearborn, Michigan, and Nissan Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. of Japan.

The new U.S. guidelines are meant to bring order to the technology's development. Proponents say such technology can make cars safer because machines can react faster and they are less prone to human error. But even ex-

perts remain cautious.

Among the recent forays into self-driving technology are the partnership between Chinese-owned Volvo Cars and the Swedish-based automotive safety group Autoliv Inc., as well as Volvo teaming up with U.S. ride-hailing company Uber. Ford has announced a \$75 million investment in Velodyne Inc., which makes laser sensors. BMW Group, Intel Corp. and Mobileye have joined together to develop and sell autonomous driving technology.

In gas drilling country, the honeymoon is over on royalties

WYALUSING, Pa. (AP)—Jan Brown pores over his royalty statement and wonders where all the money went.

A few months ago, the nation's second-largest natural gas producer siphoned \$2,201 worth of gas from his 240-acre property—but paid him only \$359 after taking deductions for transportation and processing.

Brown, 59, who relies on the royalties as his sole source of income, says the deductions are outrageous and claims his

lease forbids them. He feels cheated and duped.

In Pennsylvania and other leading gas-producing states, a battle royal has developed over royalties, with landowners bitterly disputing the sums that some drillers have been taking from royalty checks already severely diminished by a collapse in prices.

Chesapeake Energy Corp. alone is facing royalty lawsuits in Texas, Ohio, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Pennsylvania—including

one filed by the Pennsylvania attorney general—and says it has received subpoenas from the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Postal Service and states over its royalty practices.

The deductions' impact is especially acute in Pennsylvania, where gas extracted from the Marcellus Shale, the nation's largest natural gas field, has been selling at a steeper discount than anywhere else in the country. Some landowners have seen their royalty checks

dwindle to nothing at all, despite a 1979 state law that mandates a landowner royalty of at least 12.5 percent of the value of the gas. In rare cases, landowners have even gotten statements with negative balances.

“This is robbery,” declared Bradford County Commissioner Doug McLinko, an ardent supporter of gas drilling who has nevertheless found himself at war with the industry. “People up here are fighting mad.”

Female business owner doesn't want the wrong kind of attention

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of “Secrets to Winning at Office Politics.” Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q : I'm new to being a business owner, and unfortunately, in the short time I've been running my own firm, I've encountered a number of male customers who seem to view me as an available female rather than a professional accountant. Although I wear modest, conservative attire and do nothing to project an “on the market” vibe, these customers have focused on my social circumstances instead of my abilities.

Recently, for example, I met with a potential client who asked several overly personal questions. Because I didn't want to be rude, I wound up providing more information than I would have liked. As a result, he offered a lot of advice about my personal relationships. This seemed very disrespectful, so how do I keep it from happening again?

A: While a few creepy customers might have lecherous intentions, some of these guys may simply be trying to fill a conversational vacuum. So the first step in solving this problem is to maintain control of the discussion in a pleasant, professional manner. Since you're just starting out, this might require a bit of practice.

When meeting with prospective clients, you must be prepared to initiate the conversation and then move it forward in a productive direction. If you start with a concise description of your services, followed by some targeted business questions, customers are less likely to drift off track.

With those who like to chat, keep the topics appropriate by differentiating between what's friendly and personal. Talking about pets, sports, or travel is friendly, while discussing family matters or social relationships is personal. And sexual banter is in a category all its own.

Once you have mentally defined your conversational boundaries, try to recognize when things are about to take an inappropriate turn. At that point, one helpful strategy is the “nonresponsive response,” in which you reply to a question with an answer that is both uninformative and redirecting.

For example, if a customer were to say “Do you enjoy being single?” you might reply, “My real focus is on work. By the way, how many different product lines do you have?” This approach can be useful whenever a direct answer could lead you down an undesirable path.

To summarize, begin your client meetings with a business-like opener and remain focused on your goal. If “getting to know you” conversations begin to cross the line, tactfully shift direction. And should you encounter any creepy-crawlers, immediately delete them from your client list.

Q: I sit between two co-workers who chatter to each other all day long. When they talk across me, I can't concentrate on my work or hear phone conversations. After I spoke to our supervisor, the talking stopped for a couple of days, but then it started up again. How can I get these chatterboxes to shut up?

A: The solution to this problem seems so simple that surely someone has considered it. But perhaps not, so here goes. Since you're located in between these jabbering colleagues, why not just switch places with one of them? Once you're no longer in the middle, their chatter might still be annoying but it'll be significantly less disruptive.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Gas prices up 4 cents to \$2.25 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of gasoline in the U.S. has risen four cents over the past two weeks to \$2.25 a gallon for regular grade. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that retailers and refiners have upped their prices in response to a rise in the cost of crude oil. Still, the average price per gallon is a dime less than it was a year ago. The Lundberg Survey found the average price of

midgrade gasoline was \$2.53 a gallon while premium was \$2.74 a gallon. The average price for diesel in Friday's survey was \$2.40 a gallon. The highest average price for regular gas in the contiguous U.S. was \$2.80 in San Francisco. The lowest was \$1.91 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Snapchat debuts recording 'Spectacles,' changes company name

NEW YORK (AP)—Social media app Snapchat is

introducing video-recording glasses called Spectacles and is changing its company name to incorporate the new product. The glasses can record video 10 seconds at a time by tapping a button on the device. The video is then uploaded to the popular image-messaging app via Bluetooth or Wi-Fi. The glasses are the first hardware from the Los Angeles-based company. The glasses record so-called “circular video,” meaning it plays full-screen on any device in any orientation. They will be avail-

able in the U.S. in the fall on a limited basis and cost \$130. In a way, the Spectacles recall Google's venture into eyewear, Google Glass, which took photos and video. But that device also had a screen that let you surf the web as well and cost \$1,500. Google shuttered that venture in early 2015 after it received a tepid response from users. The company says it's changing its name to Snap Inc. since it now has more than one product. The app will retain the name Snapchat.

Nation

Mall shooting suspect: 'Creepy,' multiple arrests, disputes

OAK HARBOR, Wash. (AP)—The 20-year-old man suspected of killing five people with a rifle at a Macy's makeup counter had a string of run-ins with the law in recent years, including charges he assaulted his stepfather, and was described by a neighbor as so "creepy, rude and obnoxious" that she kept a Taser by her front door.

As investigators tried to piece together information on Arcan Cetin, who was arrested Saturday evening after a nearly 24-hour manhunt, a picture emerged of a troubled young man. Court records show more than a half-dozen criminal cases in Island County alone since 2013.

Authorities said the gunman in the attack at the Cascade Mall in Burlington opened fire in the department store's cosmetics department Friday night, killing a man and four females ranging from a teenager to a senior citizen. The killer then fled.

Cetin said nothing and appeared "zombie-like" when he was taken into custody on a sidewalk outside his apartment complex some 30 miles away in Oak Harbor by a sher-

iff's officer who recognized him as the suspect in the rampage, authorities said.

Cetin immigrated to the U.S. from Turkey and is a legal permanent resident, officials said.

As the surrounding area absorbed news of the arrest, critical questions remained, including the gunman's motive. The FBI said early Saturday that there was no indication the shooting was terrorism, but local authorities said later in the day that they were ruling nothing out.

On Sept. 17, a 20-year-old man stabbed 10 people at a Minnesota mall before being shot to death by an off-duty police officer. Authorities said they are investigating the attack by Dahir Ahmed Adan as a possible act of terrorism.

On Sunday, investigators searched Cetin's vehicle and the apartment complex and were seen carrying boxes from a rear, upstairs unit. The four-unit building was surrounded with yellow police tape. Detectives would not say what they found.

Amber Cathey, 21, lived in an apartment next to Cetin for the past three months and said



This video image provided by Skagit County Department of Emergency Management shows a suspect wanted by the authorities regarding a shooting at the Cascade Mall in Burlington, Wash., Friday, Sept. 23, 2016.

Clinton, Trump buff foreign policy bona fides on debate eve

NEW YORK (AP)—Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump were meeting separately with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Sunday, giving each candidate fresh foreign policy talking points on the eve of their first presidential debate.

Clinton met Sunday evening with Netanyahu for less than an hour in Manhattan, according to Clinton campaign officials. Her meeting came after Trump sat down with the prime minister at his residence in Trump Tower in the morning, Israeli and Trump campaign officials said.

Reporters were barred from covering either meeting.

Clintons' campaign said in a statement that the two had an "in-depth conversation." She stressed that "a strong and secure Israel is vital to the United States" and "reaffirmed unwavering commitment" to the relationship.

According to her campaign, Clinton stressed her support for the 10-year, \$38 billion military aid package signed between the two countries earlier the month and opposition to efforts to boycott Israel. They also discussed Iran, the conflict in Syria and other re-

gional challenges, including her support for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict negotiated by the two parties—not an outside organization like the U.N. Security Council.

Trump and Netanyahu discussed "at length" Israel's use of a fence to help secure its borders, an example Trump frequently cites when he's talking about the wall he wants to build between the U.S. and Mexico.

"Trump recognized that Israel and its citizens have suffered far too long on the front lines of Islamic terrorism," the campaign said in a statement. "He agreed with Prime Minister Netanyahu that the Israeli people want a just and lasting peace with their neighbors, but that peace will only come when the Palestinians renounce hatred and violence and accept Israel as a Jewish State."

The meeting was designed to put Israel on good footing with the next U.S. president.

The Israeli leader has sought to project neutrality this time after perceptions arose that he favored Mitt Romney over President Barack Obama in 2012.

Mall victims include teen, probation officer, Boeing worker

SEATTLE (AP)—Five people died in the shooting at a Macy's store in a mall north of Seattle. Authorities do not plan to make their identities public until Tuesday, but details about three of the victims have been reported by Washington state media. Here's what is known about them:

SARAI LARA:

The 16-year-old high school sophomore was the youngest victim of the gunman who opened fire in department store in the small city of Burlington.

Born in Mount Vernon

just south of Burlington, Lara was described by her mother Evangelina as bright, all smiles and her mother's "right hand" at home for the family.

The teen survived cancer and was told by her doctor that she was doing well, Evangelina Lara told The Seattle Times (<https://go.gl/YMQvxk>) through a translator.

The family has Mexican roots, and Sarai Lara was proud of her heritage, her mother said. She had a wide network of friends at school and helped at home, caring for year 5-year-old sister.

"It's not fair what happened to her," Evangelina Lara said.

CHUCK EAGAN:

Eagan was a longtime Boeing Co. maintenance worker from Lake Stevens, his aunt, Carol Thrush told (<http://bit.ly/2cYDJn0>) The Seattle Times.

She said Eagan and his wife were out for a dinner and shopping at the mall. They had made their way to Macy's when the shooter opened fire. Thrush said Eagan and his wife ran, but his wife fell down as she was trying to get away.

Eagan was shot as he

she was so frightened by him that she complained to apartment management and kept a stun gun handy. Cathey said she blocked him on Snapchat after he sent her a photo of his crotch.

"He was really creepy, rude and obnoxious," Cathey said. She said she would try to avoid him by walking the long way around to her apartment if she saw his car in the parking lot. The two were in high school together as well, and Cathey said he acted the same way then.

The Seattle Times reported (<http://bit.ly/2cWhxJY>) that court records show Cetin faced three charges of assaulting his stepfather. The newspaper said Cetin also was arrested on drunken driving charges. It gave no details on when the arrests took place or how the cases may have been resolved.

helped his wife, Thrush said.

Thrush said Eagan had two daughters and three grandchildren.

He planned to retire from Boeing next year and hoped to travel.

BELINDA GALDE:

Galde, 64, was a longtime probation officer with the Skagit County District Court.

The court in a statement described Galde as "an amazingly kind and caring individual who was much adored by her friends, her coworkers and the thousands of probationers who she helped find a better way to live."

Lengthy jury selection in Charleston church shootings begins

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—The laborious process of jury selection is getting underway in the federal death penalty trial of Dylann Roof, the white man charged in the deaths of nine black parishioners gunned down during a Bible study at a Charleston church.

The 22-year-old Roof is charged with hate crimes, obstruction of religion and other counts in the June 17, 2015 shootings at Emanuel AME Church. Prosecutors allege he talked of starting a race war, posed with the Confederate battle flag before the killings and used the internet to scope out Emanuel and other historically black churches.

The first of hundreds of potential jurors report to the courthouse in Charleston's historic district on Monday. Testimony in the case being

heard by U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel is not anticipated until after Thanksgiving.

In the trial last year of Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, jury selection took about two months with weather and other delays. The guilt and sentencing phases took almost nine weeks.

Like the Tsarnaev trial, the Roof trial will be in two phases: a first to decide guilt or innocence and, if he is convicted, a second to determine if he should be sentenced to life in prison or death.

Roof's attorneys have said repeatedly their client is willing to plead guilty if the death penalty is taken off the table. But U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch has said the government is seeking death because of "the nature of the alleged crime and the resulting harm."

Miller Shealy, an attor-

ney who teaches criminal law at Charleston School of Law, said the challenge for the defense is finding a jury that will keep Roof out of the death chamber.

"You're trying to apply a little common sense and the best social science and psychology you can get to determine how you can pick a jury that is as non-lethal as possible," he said. "The government is trying to pick a jury that actually will give the death penalty based on the facts and the circumstances."

Three thousand potential jurors from the Charleston area were summoned over the summer and asked to fill out a standard questionnaire about education, employment and the like. When jurors report Monday they will be sworn in, introduced to the defendant and attorneys and then the court will hear from any who

want to be excused.

Reasons for being excused include being over 70, having served on a federal jury in the past two years, having no one else to care for young children, serving as a volunteer with a public safety agency or having a business that would fold if the juror served.

Those not excused will then fill out a second questionnaire asking specifically about the Roof case, a questionnaire the judge has sealed.

Once a pool of 700 jurors has filled out the questionnaires they will return Nov. 7 to be individually questioned by the judge.

Once that process produces 70 qualified jurors they will be presented to attorneys who can use strikes to dismiss those they don't want. Twelve jurors and six alternates will be seated.

Asia

N. Korea vows in UN speech to strengthen nuclear forces

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—North Korea's foreign minister condemned the United States on Friday for flying supersonic bombers over South Korea earlier this week and vowed his country will strengthen its nuclear capabilities in defiance of multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions.

In a defiant speech before the U.N. General Assembly, Ri Yong Ho said the Korean Peninsula "has now been turned into the world's most dangerous hot spot which can even ignite the outbreak of a nuclear war." He blamed the United States and "its hostile policy" against North Korea.

Ri claimed that B-1B bombers the U.S. military flew over South Korea earlier this week crossed the demarcation line separating the two Koreas. The U.S. military has said at least one of two supersonic bombers that it flew over South Korea approached the border with the North Korea, an unusual occurrence in the world's most heavily fortified border.

Cmdr. Dave Benham, U.S. Pacific Command spokesman, said Friday that the aircraft remained in South Korean airspace and "did not at



AP
North Korea's Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho addresses the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly, at U.N. headquarters, Friday, Sept. 23, 2016.

North Korea's recent nuclear test, along with recent ballistic missile launches, have deepened concerns that it is moving closer toward obtaining the ability to put nuclear warheads on a variety of its ballistic missiles.

Speaking at a meeting with Southeast Asian foreign ministers Friday, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said that every country has a responsibility to vigorously enforce U.N. Security Council resolutions to ensure North Korea "pays a price for its dangerous actions."

Kerry also vowed that the United States would defend its own citizens against the North Korean threat and honor its security commitments to its allies.

any time cross themilitary demarcation line between North and South Korea."

The U.S. flyover was the second in as many weeks and came two weeks after North Korea conducted its fifth and

most powerful nuclear test.

Ri said "the United States will have to face tremendous consequences beyond imagination."

He said the North "will continue to take measures to strengthen its national nuclear

armed forces in both quantity and quality in order to defend the dignity and right to existence and safeguard genuine peace vis-a-vis the increased nuclear war threat of the United States."

comments later.

The angry speech was expected, with many of Modi's supporters and members of his Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party demanding that India hit back hard after the attack on the army base.

On Friday, Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman Nafees Zakaria denied any Pakistani involvement in the attack.

"They have a tendency of making such allegations whenever some incident takes place in India, especially in Kashmir," Zakaria told state-run Pakistan Television.

the charge.

"Let me tell Pakistan that the sacrifice of 18 Indian soldiers will not go to waste," Modi said in his speech.

"There is one nation in Asia whose aim is to spread terrorism and is working toward ensuring that the 21st century does not belong to Asia," he said, referring to Pakistan. "Every nation is holding only one country responsible for terrorism. Only one country in Asia is a safe haven for terrorists." Pakistan's Foreign Ministry said Saturday evening that it would release an official reaction to Modi's

He said terrorist attacks in Bangladesh and Afghanistan were also being instigated from Pakistan.

"We will isolate you," Modi warned Pakistan. "I will work for that."

Modi's speech in the southern Indian town of Kozhikode was his first since 18 soldiers were killed in an attack on an army base in Indian-controlled Kashmir last Sunday. Indian investigators say maps, weapons and other evidence indicated that the attackers were from Jaish-e-Mohammed, an outlawed militant group based in Pakistan. Pakistan denies

India's prime minister says Pakistan haven for terrorism

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's prime minister said Saturday that he would work to isolate Pakistan internationally, accusing his country's archrival of trying to destabilize Asia by exporting terrorism.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a nationally televised speech that in the last four months, Indian security forces have killed 110 terrorists who crossed over the cease-fire line in Kashmir from Pakistani territory.

"There would have been a bloodbath had they succeeded in carrying out attacks in India," Modi said.

Surfer in stable condition after Australian shark attack

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—A teenage surfer was in stable condition after he was bitten by a shark Monday at the same Australian beach where a Japanese surfer was fatally mauled last year, officials said.

The 17-year-old high school student was surfing with friends on the first day of the students' spring vacation when he was attacked off Ballina's Lighthouse Beach early Monday, Ballina Mayor David Wright said.

The shark struck from behind and bit across the board's fins as the boy lay

on the board paddling. The shark's lower jaw tore into the fiberglass as its upper teeth clamped his right hip and thigh, Wright said.

"The shark lacerated his leg in three or four places fairly deep," Wright said. "Luckily the lifeguards were on duty and got down there quickly."

"He should be OK. It was very close to his artery," Wright added.

The boy, a Ballina resident, was taken by ambulance to Lismore Base Hospital, where he was in a stable condition, emergency services said.

Witnesses said the shark

responsible appeared to be a 3-meter (10-foot) great white shark.

In February last year, a 41-year-old Japanese tourist died after losing both his legs to a great white 3 to 4 meters (10 to 13 feet) long while surfing at Lighthouse Beach.

There have been four shark attacks in the Ballina area requiring hospital treatment since that tragedy and many more near misses, Wright said.

The state government last month abandoned plans to safeguard Lighthouse Beach with a 700-meter (770-yard) nylon shark barrier.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Powerful quake rattles Japan's southern island of Okinawa

TOKYO (AP)—An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 has rattled Okinawa and other southern Japanese islands, but there was no danger of a tsunami. Japan Meteorological Agency said the quake occurred at 2:20 p.m. (0520 GMT) Monday off the coast of Okinawa, at the depth of 40 kilometers below the sea surface. The quake in the south came just minutes after another relatively strong temblor hit the north. A magnitude 5.5 quake occurred just off the southern coast of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island at 2:13 p.m. (0513 GMT). There was no fear of tsunami from this one either. There were no reports of immediate damage or injuries from the two earthquakes that struck almost simultaneously at both ends of the Japanese archipelago.

Japan vows to closely watch possible China warplane activity

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's top government spokesman has warned China against expanding its military activity in the skies over disputed East China Sea islands after eight Chinese warplanes flew near the area on Sunday. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Monday that Japan scrambled at least one fighter jet after the

planes passed over the Miyako Strait, east of the Japan-controlled Senkaku islands, which China also claims and calls the Diaoyu. Suga said the aircraft, believed to be two fighter jets, four bombers and two reconnaissance aircraft, did not violate Japanese airspace during a "long-distance roundtrip flight." He added that Japan would respond firmly to any violation of Japanese air space in the future. Chinese media reports said the flights were part of a routine exercise involving about 40 military aircraft.

1 Chinese tourist dead, 11 hurt in bus crash near Yosemite

OAKHURST, Calif. (AP)—The California Highway Patrol says one passenger was killed and 11 were injured when a tour bus carrying students from China hit a tree near Yosemite National Park and went down an embankment. The Fresno Bee reports the highway patrol said Sunday that the Chinese tourist who died was one of four passengers with serious injuries. The highway patrol says 22 people were on the bus that crashed Saturday near the tiny village of Fish Camp. Most were 12- to 15-year-old Chinese students and their adult chaperones. The highway patrol says the driver was treated for moderate injuries in Saturday's crash.

World

At least 26 killed in Aleppo as UN meets over Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—At least 26 civilians were killed in fresh government airstrikes on the contested city of Aleppo, Syrian activists said Sunday, as the United Nations Security Council convened an emergency meeting on the spiraling violence in Syria but failed to take any action because of deep divisions between Russia and the Western powers.

The United States, Britain and France, who called the emergency meeting, heaped blame on Moscow for supporting the Syrian offensive which U.N. envoy Staffan de Mistura called one of the worst of the 5 1/2-year war.

When Syria's U.N. Ambassador Bashar Ja'afari was called to speak in the council, the ambassadors of the three Western powers walked out in protest.

They had demanded a halt to the Aleppo offensive and immediate council action, and their walkout demonstrated anger and frustration not only at Damascus but at Russia for backing close ally Bashar Assad's military campaign while talking about reviving a cessation of hostilities.

"What Russia is sponsoring and doing is not counter-terrorism, it's barbarism," said U.S.

Ambassador Samantha Power. "It's apocalyptic what is being done in eastern Aleppo."

As the government offensive entered its fourth day on Sunday, medical workers and local officials reported airstrikes on neighborhoods throughout Aleppo's rebel-held eastern districts.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported 26 civilians had been killed by 7:30 p.m. and said it expects the toll to rise. Ibrahim Alhaj of the Syrian Civil Defense search and rescue outfit gave a higher toll, saying hospitals and rescuers had documented the deaths of 43 people so far on Sunday.

The Observatory, which relies on a network of contacts inside Syria, said earlier in the day that 213 civilians had been killed by airstrikes and shelling on opposition areas in and around Aleppo since the U.S.-Russian brokered cease-fire collapsed Monday evening.

Hospitals are overwhelmed with casualties and medical workers are expecting many of the wounded to die from a lack of treatment, according to Mohammad Zein Khandaqani, a member of the Medical Council, which oversees medical affairs in the city's opposi-



In this photo provided by the Syrian Civil Defense group known as the White Helmets, shows members of Civil Defense removing a dead body from under the rubble after airstrikes hit in Aleppo, Syria, Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016.

tion quarters.

"I've never seen so many people dying in once place," he said from a hospital in the

city. "It's terrifying today. In less than one hour the Russian planes have killed more than 50 people and injured

more than 200."

Conflicting casualty estimates are common in the aftermath of clashes and at-

Jordanian writer gunned down outside courthouse

AMMAN, Jordan (AP)—A prominent and outspoken Jordanian writer on Sunday was shot dead in front of the courthouse where he had been on trial for posting a cartoon deemed offensive to Islam on social media.

A Jordanian security official said the shooter was a former imam, or prayer leader, at a local mosque, and said the man had been motivated by his anger over the cartoon posted to Facebook by writer Nahed Hattar. The shooting was the latest in a string of deadly security lapses in Jordan.

Witnesses and police said Hattar, 56, was preparing to enter the courthouse for a hearing when the gunman shot him at close range.

"He was standing at a

short distance of about one meter (yard) in front of Nahed on the stairs of the Supreme Court," a witness told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, fearing repercussions. The official Petra News Agency said Hattar was shot three times.

The witness said the shooter, who was immediately arrested, was wearing a long grey robe and long beard characteristic of conservative Muslims.

Jordanian media, citing anonymous officials, identified the shooter as Riad Abdullah, 49, a former imam in northern Hashmi, a poor neighborhood in Amman. The reports said Abdullah had recently returned from a trip abroad,

but gave no further details.

The security official declined to confirm the suspect's name. But he said he had confessed to the shooting and claimed he had acted alone and had no connections to any militant group.

Prosecutors charged the man with premeditated murder, committing a deadly terrorist act and possession of an unlicensed weapon. The suspect was detained for 15 days while the case was referred to the State Security Court.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said the suspect said he was motivated by the cartoon, which depicted a bearded man, smoking and in bed with two

tacks in Syria.

At the start of the Security Council meeting, U.N. envoy de Mistura said the offensive against eastern Aleppo, where up to 275,000 people "have been under a form of de facto siege for almost 20 days," followed the U.S.-led coalition's bombing of Syrian troops, which Washington called a tragic mistake, and a deadly attack on a U.N. convoy carrying desperately needed humanitarian aid. "But no incident, irrespective of whether it can be attributed or not, does justify what is going on in front of our own eyes: the unraveling of the cessation of hostilities and the simultaneous unleashing of unprecedented military violence affecting innocent civilians as well," he said.

He urged the United States and Russia "to go that extra mile to see if they can save their agreement of Sept. 9 and do so at the eleventh hour."

Spain's regional elections give boost to Rajoy's party

MADRID (AP)—Acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's conservative Popular Party got a boost in regional elections Sunday, while the opposition Socialists lost ground.

Residents of the Basque and Galicia regions voted in elections for 75-seat regional parliaments, but the results failed to indicate a clear path forward to ending the country's prolonged political stalemate.

Rajoy has been running a caretaker government for almost a year after two inconclusive rounds of national elections in December and June. The conservatives won the most seats in both elections, but were unable to form a governing coalition, and another election is likely in December.

In Galicia, the Popular Party won a majority of seats, with 41, while the Basque Nationalist Party won 29. The Basque party won the most seats in the Basque region.

The Socialist Party lost seats in both regions. The results could cause the Socialists to abstain in a parliamen-

tary vote of confidence that would allow Rajoy to form a minority Popular Party-led government.

The Popular Party hopes the strong showing in Galicia, Rajoy's home region, could demonstrate that his party enjoys the support of the conservative electorate despite recent corruption scandals and boost his efforts to form a minority government.

Rajoy has the support of 170 lawmakers in the 350-seat national parliament—137 of them from his own party. But he is still six short of the majority needed to form a government. The Basque Nationalist Party holds five seats and their support would leave Rajoy needing just one more vote or an abstention.

But the Basque party's results in their regional elections make it unlikely that the party would support Rajoy.

"It's difficult to imagine that the Galician and Basque elections are going to change the situation at the national level," Navarra University Public Opinion Professor Manuel Martin Algarra said.

Colombia to sign historic peace deal on ending long conflict

CARTAGENA, Colombia (AP)—Colombia will take a big step toward emerging from its long nightmare of bloody violence Monday when the government and the country's largest rebel movement sign a peace accord that emerged from four hard years of negotiations.

The significance of the deal can't be overstated: Colombia's five-decade conflict, partly fueled by the nation's cocaine trade, has killed more than 220,000 people and driven 8 million from their homes.

Underlining the importance of the day, the pact is being signed by Colombian Presi-

dent Juan Manuel Santos and by the top commander of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, a rebel fighter known by the alias Timochenko. Fifteen Latin American presidents, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry are scheduled to witness the signing in the colonial Caribbean city of Cartagena.

The ceremony late Monday afternoon will be charged with symbolism. The more than 2,500 guests have been invited to wear white as a sign of peace, and Santos will put his signature on the 297-page accord with a pen made from a

recycled shell used in combat.

The signing won't close the deal, though. Colombians are being given the final say on endorsing or rejecting the accord in an Oct. 2 referendum. Opinion polls point to an almost-certain victory for the "yes" vote, but some analysts warn that a closer-than-expected finish or low voter turnout could bode poorly for the many challenges the country faces implementing the ambitious accord.

Among the biggest and most controversial steps will be judging the war crimes of guerrillas as well as state actors. Under terms of the ac-

cord, rebels who lay down their weapons and confess their abuses will be spared jail time and allowed to provide reparations to their victims by carrying out development work in areas hit hard by the conflict.

The government has also committed itself to addressing unequal land distribution, which has been a longstanding FARC demand harkening back to its roots as a peasant army in 1964, and the administration agreed to work with the guerrillas to provide alternative development to tens of thousands of families that depend on the cocaine trade.

Focus



AP
In this Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2016 still image from video, Kimberly Coleman-Mitchell, right, teaches her fourth grade class at Oakridge Elementary School in Arlington, Va. Elementary schools in Arlington, South Burlington, Vt., and Holyoke, Mass., are among those that went homework-free at the start of the school year.

Goodbye to homework for some elementary schools and classes

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP)—Guess what, kids? No homework. Really. All year.

A small but growing number of elementary schools and individual teachers are doing away with the after-school chore to allow kids more time to play, participate in activities, spend time with families, read and sleep.

There's been pushback against homework from parents in recent years who say their children's time is monopolized by other activities, said Steven Geis, president of the National Elementary School Principals' Association.

At North Trail Elementary School, in Farmington, Minnesota, where he is principal, students do what he says is engaging homework.

Some schools and individual teachers are revising their homework policies to ensure that they are effective, he said.

At the Orchard School, a kindergarten-through-5th grade school in South Burlington, Vermont, the principal there said he's seen more anxiety among students in the last decade. The school opted to do away with homework this school year, based in part on the book "The Homework Myth."

"They're just kids. They're pretty young and they just put in a full day's shift at work and so we just don't believe in adding more to their day. We



AP
In this Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2016 still image from video, students attend the fourth grade class of Kimberly Coleman-Mitchell at Oakridge Elementary School in Arlington, Va.

also feel that we are squashing their other passions and interest in learning," Principal Mark Trifilio said.

Alfie Kohn, the outspoken education lecturer and author of the book, "The Homework Myth," says homework is a case of all pain and no gain.

"The disadvantages of homework are clear to everyone: exhaustion, frustration, loss of time to pursue other interests and often diminution of interest in learning," he said. "Homework may be the great-

est extinguisher of curiosity ever invented."

But Harris Cooper, a psychology and neuroscience professor at Duke University, who has been studying the effects of homework for 30 years, disagrees.

He thinks all school children should be doing homework, but the amount and type should vary depending on age and developmental levels.

Cooper led research that reviewed more than 60 studies on homework between

1987 and 2003 and found that homework had a positive effect on student achievement, but the positive correlation was much stronger for students in grades 7-12 than for those in elementary school.

He prescribes homework assignments that are short, simple and lead to success for elementary school kids, he said.

It teaches kids that they don't just learn in the classroom and helps turn them into lifelong learners while

improving their sense of independence, and time management and study skills, Cooper said.

"Homework is like medicine. If you take too little, it does nothing. If you take too much, it can kill you," Cooper said. "You've got to get the dose right, and if you do, it can do wonders."

A lot of the backlash is a reaction to some teachers assigning too much homework, he said.

A guideline for many schools is 10 minutes of homework per grade: so 10 minutes in 1st grade, 20 minutes in 2nd grade and so on.

"We definitely don't say 'no homework' but we try to keep it reasonable," said Cherie Stobie, principal at the K-8 Marion school in Marion, Montana.

"The main benefit is just having the additional time to practice later in the day because research shows that if students practice, you know they take a break after they've learned something and they practice it again later, it's more likely to be retained," she said.

Noelle M. Ellerson, of AASA: The School Superintendents Association, said

there has been a small but growing number of schools or teachers revising homework policies or talking about it "whether it's to do away with it or to shift to a policy where homework is the classwork they didn't finish during the day or where the homework of the child is to read with their parents."

At the Orchard School, the children's daily home assignment now is to read books, get outside and play, eat dinner with family—including helping with setting and cleaning up—and get a good night's sleep.

"It's awesome," 9-year-old Avery Cutroni said of the no-homework policy. She had dance and piano lessons after school recently, so said she had a busy schedule. Plus, she's reading more on her own, her mother said.

"I think it gives kids a lot of time for mental and physical rest which I think is super important," said Heidi Cutroni, of the school's elimination of homework. "I think it's really good for parent-teacher-student relations in all directions and I think it just gives kids a chance to use their time for what their passionate and excited about."

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:

By CHARLES FLEMING
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Mazda has an all-new CX-9. Will anyone notice?

Mazda makes great cars that are underappreciated in the U.S. market. With the exception of the Miata, cars made by this Japanese also-ran are generally not big winners here.

Is it poor marketing? A weak dealer network? A question of styling? I'm not sure, but it's an unfortunate fact that most buyers will look at Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Hyundai, Kia or Fiat without slowing down to think about Mazda.

That's too bad, because the "zoom zoom" carmaker makes good cars.

The company's newest offering is an all-new CX-9, a three-row, seven-passenger SUV.

The 2016 model features a new four-cylinder, turbocharged, 2.5-liter engine that replaces the 3.7-liter V6 that powered the earlier version of the CX-9.

Proprietary to this vehicle, the engine is peppy, despite its rather anemic sound. It has torque that starts low in the rev range, especially in "sport" mode, pulling hard from corner to corner and up and down hills.

At first it seemed to me that the engine and transmission had some difficulty agreeing on what gear they liked, especially during hard acceleration. I corrected this by driving the CX-9 in sport mode, using the manual stick-shift option—not a great way to maximize the fuel economy, but a good way to control the power.

The CX-9 is also sleek and silent on the freeway, as I discovered during a week-end trip. The suspension feels plush, and the comfortable interior absorbs most of the road and tire noise.

At highway speeds, the CX-9's various safety and driver assist programs proved the equal of those present in much more expensive vehicles. The adaptive cruise control system, which Mazda calls "radar cruise control," is among the best in the business. It slows down and speeds up gracefully, as traffic conditions deteriorate and improve, and will bring the CX-9 close to a complete stop without any of the jerkiness I've experienced in other vehicles.

Though I found the car got poor mileage in town—14 to 16 miles per gallon for the first couple of days—it did better on the highway, where over the weekend drive it produced numbers very close to its promised 27 miles per gallon on the highway.

More surprisingly, the crossover crosses over and



A promotional photo of the 2016 Mazda CX-9.

TNS

handles itself very nicely off the pavement too. I drove about 20 miles of unpaved road. While the route presented no challenging mud pits, rock gardens or snowbanks, the CX-9's all-wheel-drive felt sure-footed and nimble on the uneven surface.

Like all crossovers, the CX-9 looks a little like a pregnant hamster. It sits high enough to allow for good ground clearance and an easy slide into the driver's seat for average-size folks. It's wide enough to allow for a generous cabin.

There's ample legroom and headroom in the first and second rows, though the third row—where seats fold down to create extra storage space—will be reserved for pets, packages and small people only.

The generous cabin size is augmented by very good visibility all around, visibility that's increased by an effective rear-view camera when backing up.

The interior systems required no special education. Everything is within easy reach. The dashboard is spare and clean, the dials are easy to read, and the knobs and buttons are intelligently placed and differently sized, which makes them easier to distinguish without having to take your eyes off the road.

The Bluetooth-based phone system booted up first try, and stayed booted—not always a given. The navigation system was similarly intuitive and seamless.

But the climate-control sys-

tem required a little patience, as the "auto" settings invariably seemed to be blowing far too much air into the cabin or none at all. After a week in the car, I never did figure out how the car was deciding to reach the temperature setting I chose.

The ergonomics were also a little awkward. I found myself banging my right knee

against the inside of the center console, no matter how far forward or back I adjusted the seat. I also found that reaching both the seat belt and the door handle required a little extra planning. Grab the seat belt as you're sliding into the car, and don't let the door swing all the way open before you take hold of the handle.

Like the earlier CX-9s, the

2017 model will be available in four trim levels. Base model CX-9s are available from \$35,120. The Signature version I drove cost quite a bit more than that, because of the many comfort, convenience and safety features included in this top-of-the-line model. It comes standard with keyless ignition, hands-free rear hatch operation, 20-inch alloy wheels, telescopic adjustable steering wheel, rear cross-traffic and lane-departure warnings, lane-keeping assist and half a dozen other accouterments.

All that adds about \$10,000 to the base MSRP, which puts the Signature level CX-9 into pretty fast company. But while its features stack up favorably with similarly outfitted SUVs made by companies with more brand appeal, like Audi, BMW, Porsche and Mercedes, the CX-9's price—\$45,215 MSRP—is equal to or above comparable vehicles made by its Japanese, Korean and American counterparts.

Can the refreshed CX-9 find a place in the increasingly overcrowded mid-size SUV market? Can it satisfy Mazda's stated goal of 50,000 units a year globally, with 80 percent of those sales coming from the U.S.?

At its peak, the previous CX-9 was a fairly good performer, selling more than 34,000 units

in 2011. But sales had fallen to 18,000 CX-9s in 2015.

That's not quite what the smaller, less expensive CX-5 sells—about 100,000 of those retail each year in the U.S.—and it's a long way from the 100,000 RXs that Lexus sells here annually.

If the new CX-9 doesn't sell, it won't be for lack of trying. Mazda has made a good SUV. Now it's up to the rest of us to buy them.

NUTS & BOLTS

2016 Mazda CX-9 AWD

- Quick take: Crossover competition for Euro brands
- Highs: Roomy interior, zoomy engine
- Lows: Awkward ergonomics, clumsy climate controls
- Vehicle type: Four-door, seven-passenger SUV
- Base price: \$35,120
- Price as tested: \$45,215
- Powertrain: 2.5-liter, twin-turbo, four-cylinder engine
- Transmission: 6-speed automatic, AWD
- Horsepower: 227
- Torque: 310 pound feet
- EPA fuel economy rating: 21 miles per gallon city / 27 mpg highway / 23 mpg combined

UNDER THE HOOD: Getting to know your gauges

Q: With our help, our daughter just purchased her first car. It's a bit different than our family car in that it uses a variety of gauges, rather than lights, to display key information. Can you explain the importance of these gauges and what they represent? She understands the tachometer, but I think she'd be more receptive to additional information if it came from an auto expert rather than her dad.

--Jack and Susan M.

A: In addition to the tachometer and speedometer, the three gauges most commonly found in cars measure oil pressure, engine coolant temperature and system voltage.

Oil pressure is vital to engine operation, and if a complete loss of pressure occurs, the car could quickly sustain severe damage. Losing pressure is unlikely unless there's a loss of oil, which could happen if the kid at the lube shop accidentally double-gaskets

the oil filter. More common, though, is a gradual loss of oil due to normal consumption or small, sneaky leaks. By checking the oil level every third or fourth trip to the gas station, one can easily put such concerns to rest.

However, if you notice momentary losses of pressure during sharp turns or while starting or stopping, your engine might be running low on oil. Clicking sounds coming from the top of the engine could be another indicator.

And remember, oil pressure varies between 15-50 pounds per square inch with engine temperature and speed. Higher is better.

Maintaining correct engine temperature is also very important.

An engine that runs too cool will waste fuel, produce greater emissions and wear out more quickly. Excessive temperature, meanwhile, can distort or crack expensive metal parts such as the cylin-

der heads, pistons and engine block. High temps can also lead to head gasket failure.

With proper cooling system maintenance (checking hoses and belts and getting coolant renewed every four or five years), the odds of a sudden engine failure are slight. But anything's possible.

Coolant quantity should be checked regularly. When a vehicle is low on coolant, its engine temperature might remain OK under easy driving conditions but it's likely to spike when tested by hill climbing or other challenges. If a sudden loss of coolant occurs, or the thermostat fails to open properly, a driver has perhaps three or four minutes of driving before big trouble will occur.

The ideal engine temperature is about 195-200 degrees under normal driving conditions and perhaps up to 230 degrees when climbing steep, long grades.

System voltage is the least important of the three gauges.

That said, your daughter is far more likely to see low voltage than high voltage.

Low voltage (below 12.6 volts) means the charging system isn't working. Normal voltage should be about 14 volts, perhaps lower at stops with high accessory use.

High voltage (above 16 volts), while rare, can cause component damage and a sweating, stinky battery.

If the charging system suddenly fails, one has perhaps an hour or two of driving and only a few engine restarts before the battery will become deeply drained. If low voltage and stiff steering suddenly occur together, there's a good chance the car's serpentine drive belt has failed. Pull over as soon as possible or severe overheating will quickly set in.

I'd recommend checking gauges at least every five minutes, or, when climbing large hills or mountains, every two minutes or so.

Life & Style

Viola Davis describes becoming Rape Foundation advocate

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Viola Davis said Sunday that her own experiences with sexual assault led her to become an advocate for the Rape Foundation and encouraged others to visit treatment centers so they'll become supporters.

"You must," she said. "And then let your heart do the rest."

"Myself, my mother, my sisters, my friend Rebecca, my friend from childhood, we all have one thing in common: We are all survivors of sexual assault in some way, shape or form," Davis said Sunday at a benefit for the foundation.

It provides free medical treatment, counseling and legal aid to sexual assault victims at its Rape Treatment Center and Stuart House, which specializes in car-

ing for sexually abused children.

An advocate for the group since playing its founder in a 2010 film, Davis was among the guests of honor at the organization's annual fundraising brunch held at billionaire Ron Burkle's Greenacres estate in Beverly Hills, California.

Davis said half of the sur-



Davis

vivors helped by the Rape Foundation are children, adding that one in four girls and one in six boys are sexually abused before age 18.

Her own sister is among the casualties: She was sexually assaulted at age 8 and still struggles today.

"I continue to pray for my sister," said Davis, who has

previously spoken publicly about her sister's attack.

The brunch was held in a tented space in Burkle's backyard, where "Black Panther" star Chadwick Boseman, "Vampire Diaries" actress Nina Dobrev and the supporting cast on Davis' "How to Get Away With Murder" were among the guests in 95-degree heat.

David Schwimmer was the master of ceremonies. The

actor-director started working with the Rape Foundation during his "Friends" days and has served on its board of directors for the last 12 years. He said the brunch supports a year's worth of services at the Rape Treatment Center and Stuart House.

The Rape Foundation also provides educational programs for first responders and middle- and high-school students.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Work to settle Prince's estate is moving forward, and a closed hearing is expected to be held this week to resolve an undisclosed dispute between the likely heirs and the trust company that's managing the estate. Court papers say only that the dispute involves "confidential business agreements." Five months after the musician's death, here's a look at where things stand:

STILL NO WILL

No will has surfaced since Prince died of an accidental painkiller overdose in April, so his sister, Tyka Nelson, and five half-siblings are likely to be declared the rightful heirs within the next few months. Carver County District Judge Kevin Eide has not made an official declaration or said when he will. He has rejected numerous claims by people who said they were Prince's children, wives and cousins, or that

Still no will, but work to settle Prince estate forges ahead

they otherwise deserved a piece his estate. The main question remaining is whether a woman and girl who claim to be Prince's niece and grandniece are entitled to shares. The judge plans to hold one or two hearings on that in November.

WHO IS RUNNING THE SHOW?

At Tyka Nelson's request, the court appointed Bremer Trust to serve as special administrator of the estate pending the appointment of an executor, which would happen after the court names the legal heirs. Tyka Nelson or someone else could be named the executor, or the heirs could choose to keep Bremer Trust in charge or bring in a different manager. Currently, Prince's entertainment assets are being managed by L. Londell McMillan, a longtime attorney, manager and



In this May 11, 2016, file photo, items left by fans at a memorial for Prince hang from a fence outside the musician's Paisley Park estate in Chanhassen, Minn.

friend of the artist, and entertainment industry executive Charles Koppelman.

CLAIMS DEADLINE

A Sept. 12 deadline set by the judge for claims against the

estate passed quietly. Most businesses that say they're owed money have been fil-

ing their claims directly with Bremer Trust, and those claims aren't public information. While people who claim to be Prince's heirs are supposed to have filed with the court by now, it's possible that more claims could trickle in. But the legal bar for getting taken seriously at this point is high.

THE CONCERT

The Oct. 13 tribute concert sanctioned by Prince's family sold out quickly when tickets went on sale Monday. The lineup includes Stevie Wonder, Christina Aguilera, Chaka Khan and others. Prince's inner circle gets a nod with Morris Day & The Time, Judith Hill and Liv Warfield, The New Power Generation and 3rd Eye Girl. The family originally wanted to hold the concert at the new NFL stadium in Minneapolis, but after a long wait for details that frustrated fans across the country, the much smaller Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul was chosen as the venue.

NEW YORK (AP)—Movie stars don't open movies anymore? Tell that to Denzel Washington and Tom Hanks.

The pair, once co-stars in "Philadelphia," have together dominated the last three weeks of the box office. After Clint Eastwood's Miracle on the Hudson docudrama "Sully," starring Hanks as Captain Chesley Sullenberger, topped ticket sales of the last two weeks, "The Magnificent Seven" rode Washington's star power to an estimated \$35 million debut over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Though both Washington and Hanks are in their early 60s, their box-office clout might be just as potent as ever. The debut of "Sully" was Hanks' fourth best opening of his career; the opening of "The Magnificent Seven," Antoine Fuqua's remake of John Sturges' 1960 Western (itself a remake of Akira Kurosawa's "Seven Samurai"),

'Magnificent Seven' rides Denzel's star power to \$35M debut

is Washington's third best.

Both films boasted other enticements. Eastwood is himself a draw. And the ensemble of "The Magnificent Seven" most notably includes Chris Pratt, the "Guardians of the Galaxy" star and a potential heir apparent to Washington and Hanks.

But Washington and Hanks ranked as the overwhelming reason audiences went to see either movie, according to comScore's survey of moviegoers.

"They are the model of consistency and they are the model of quality," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. "These are guys who can draw a huge audience in any type of movie that they're in. It's not like they're pigeonholed into one kind of franchise. Denzel Washington can be part of a genre, the Western, that

doesn't exactly have teenagers scrambling to the movie theater."

Sony Pictures' "The Magnificent Seven" wasn't cheap to make — it cost about \$90 million — so its path to profitability isn't assured. Directed by Fuqua (whose "Training Day" and "The Equalizer" also starred Washington), the film made splashy premieres at both the Toronto International Film Festival and the Venice Film Festival.

Coming in at a distant second was Warner Bros.' "Storks," an animated release where the large-winged birds have given up the baby delivery business for online sales. The film, which cost about \$70 million to make, opened with \$21.8 million. Directed by Nicholas Stoller and Doug Sweetland, its voice cast is led by Andy Samberg.

The rest of the top 10 was

populated by holdovers, with "Sully" slotting in at third with \$13.8 million in its third week. It has now grossed \$92.4 million domestically. A potentially bigger test awaits the actor next month with the release of "Inferno," in which he reprises his role as Robert Langdon in the Dan Brown franchise.

"The Magnificent Seven" slots in as one of the biggest openings for a Western ever, though the genre's heyday predated modern wide releases. The only Westerns to debut better, not accounting for inflation, bended the genre in other directions: sci-fi in the case of "Cowboys & Aliens" (\$36.4 million in 2011) and animation in "Rango" (\$38.1 million, also in 2011).

The Western, like Washington and Hanks, has proven quite durable at the

box office in recent years. The Coen brothers' "True Grit" (which grossed \$171.2 million in total), Alejandro Inarritu's "The Revenant" (\$183.6 million) and a pair of Quentin Tarantino releases ("Django Unchained," with \$162.8 million, and "The Hateful Eight," with \$54.1 million) have all proven the genre's fortitude.

"When you read this script as well as Antoine's vision of it, you knew it was going to be cool and relevant," said Rory Bruer, distribution head for Sony. "When you talk about genres or things that might not, on the surface, look to be the best play, it's always going to about what's in the story and how that story is told."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore.

Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Tuesday.

1. **"The Magnificent Seven,"** \$35 million (\$19.2 million international).
2. **"Storks,"** \$21.8 million (\$18.3 million international).
3. **"Sully,"** \$13.8 million (\$6.5 million international).
4. **"Bridget Jones's Baby,"** \$4.5 million (\$21.9 million international).
5. **"Snowden,"** \$4.1 million (\$1.7 million international).
6. **"Blair Witch,"** \$4 million (\$3.5 million international).
7. **"Don't Breathe,"** \$3.8 million (\$4.3 million international).
8. **"Suicide Squad,"** \$3.1 million (\$3 million international).
9. **"When the Bough Breaks,"** \$2.5 million.
10. **"Kubo and the Two Strings,"** \$1.1 million (\$1.8 million international).

Jane Pauley to replace Charles Osgood at 'Sunday Morning'

NEW YORK

(AP)—Jane Pauley is becoming a morning television host again—this time at a much more relaxed pace. CBS said Sunday she will replace Charles Osgood as anchor of the “Sunday Morning” telecast.

The bow-tied Osgood told viewers at the end of his last telecast after 22 years that Pauley would replace him. She’s been a contributor to the show since 2014.

Pauley will be only the third host of the program since its 1979 start with Charles Kuralt. “Sunday Morning” averages nearly six million viewers a week, the most popular morning news program on the weekend, heavy on features and a quiet, cultured vibe. Osgood leaves on a high note; ratings have increased for four straight years and this past season was his most-watched ever as host.

“Sunday Morning” devoted its program Sunday to a send-off for the 83-year-old Osgood, who will be an occasional contributor in the future and continue his radio work.

“It’s a great honor to be given the chance to further our show’s legacy on excellence,” Pauley said. “I look forward to bringing loyal viewers the kind of engaging, original reporting that has made the broadcast so irresistible for so long.”

Pauley, 65, was host of NBC’s “Today” show for 13 years, ending in 1989. She spent a decade as an anchor at “Dateline NBC” and tried her own syndicated talk show in 2004.



Pauley

She’s written two books, and the second—about people over age 50 learning new careers and skills—drew at the attention of “Sunday Morning.”

The show did a story about Pauley’s book, and viewers responded so positively she was invited to become a contributor, said Rand Morrison, the show’s executive producer.

Stories she’s worked on for “Sunday Morning” include a profile of Hillary Clinton, a report on educators who lived through the Sandy Hook elementary school shooting and are trying to change gun laws, and an interview with David Letterman when he left late-night TV.

“A worthy successor and a perfect fit,” Morrison said.

CBS honored Osgood with a tribute that delved into his signatures: a fashionable bow tie, his love of telling stories in verse and piano playing. He sat at the piano to sing a song of farewell.

“I can’t think of anything that has given me more pleasure professionally than Sunday Morning,” Osgood said during the show.

It featured cameos from Tom Brokaw, who tried futilely to tie his own bow tie; Ted Koppel, who noted that Osgood’s real last name, Wood, was abandoned professionally because ABC had another newscaster named Charles Wood; and David Letterman, whose beard is approaching Santa Claus lengths.

Pauley begins as full-time host on Oct. 9, after the show takes a week off for a football game.

J.K. Rowling: Harambe isn't part of Harry Potter universe

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling has clarified that slain Ohio gorilla, Harambe, is not a part of her fictional universe.

A new feature on Rowling’s Pottermore website al-

lows users to find out what Patronus they would use in Harry Potter’s world. A Patronus is an animal used to ward off soul-sucking creatures in the series.

Humor site The Chive put a fake picture on Twitter of Harambe the gorilla as a result on the Patronus page. Rowling retweeted the picture. A bit later she posted, “I’ve been

asked to make it clear that Harambe is not a Patronus you can actually get on @pottermore.” But she added that she thought the joke was “very funny.” (AP)

Tom Hanks returning to Cleveland to headline film benefit

CLEVELAND (AP)—Tom Hanks is returning to Cleveland in December to headline the Greater Cleveland Film Commission’s annual fundraiser, “Behind the Camera.”

Hanks started his professional acting career in Cleveland as an intern at the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival. He has made a habit of giving back to the city.

The Plain Dealer reports he’s donated money and talent to the theater and returned to the city in June for a reunion of Great Lakes interns.

The Dec. 2 benefit brings Hanks in for one night to talk about his years in the film industry.

Tickets for the event start at \$500 for individual tickets.



In this Sept. 8, 2016 file photo, Tom Hanks arrives at the premiere of “Sully” in Los Angeles.

AP

New Orleans' Big Freedia introduces Beyoncé at Superdome

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—In royal fashion, New Orleans’ own Queen of Bounce brought out Houston’s own Queen Bey at the Superdome.

Big Freedia tells NOLA.com “The Times-Picayune

that she was asked to go onstage shortly before the start of Saturday’s night’s concert.

In her words, “Well, they’re very secretive about everything so I got the call at the last minute.”

She wore the black Victorian-style costume that Beyoncé’s dancers wore for “Formation.” She told the audience, “Slay! Slay! Slay! Are you ready, New Orleans? The one and only!”

After leaving the Superdome early Sunday, Big Freedia told the newspaper that just before she went onstage, Beyoncé kissed her hand. She said, in her words, “I just died on the steps.”

UK police arrest man in hacking of Pippa Middleton's phone

LONDON (AP)—London police say they have arrested a 35-year-old man suspected of hacking the iCloud account of Pippa Middleton, the younger sister of the Duchess of Cambridge, and stealing 3,000 photographs.

The Sun newspaper said Saturday it was contacted by

a purported hacker seeking to sell the images for a minimum of 50,000 pounds (\$65,000). It said the seller communicated using the pseudonym “Crafty Cockney” on an encrypted



Middleton

messaging service and sent sample photos showing Middleton being fitted for a wedding dress in advance of her planned 2017 nuptials.

The Sun said the hacker also claimed

to possess Middleton’s informal photos of sister Kate with her children, Princess Charlotte and Prince George, and naked images of her fiancé, James Matthews.

The Metropolitan Police says the man is being questioned in London.

Boyfriend's belittling sister makes woman feel small

DEAR ABBY: I've been with my boyfriend, "Jake," for two years. We are both 32. Since the beginning, his sister, "Michelle" (who is 26), has never liked me. Jake admits there's no reason for it. He thinks she's just looking out for him because he's had bad relationships in the past.

Michelle makes me very uncomfortable during family events by making rude comments, and she makes a point of excluding me from any event she is hosting. She has told people that I "shoved her" and accuses me of refusing to let her talk to her brother. Neither is true.

I have asked Jake to ask his sister to apologize and make amends, but he insists she'll do it when "hell freezes over." He thinks I should try to make amends even though I have never done anything wrong.

I'm at a loss. I don't think I should apologize for something I've never done. Abby, she has belittled me in any encounter we've had. The rest of the family shrugs and says, "That's just the way she is." Michelle has never liked any of Jake's girlfriends, so this seems to be a pattern for her. I'm afraid it will eventually lead to the end of Jake's and my relationship.

I love him very much, and I wish he could see my side on

this. Could you please give me some advice, Abby?

NOT MY FAULT IN ALBERTA, CANADA

DEAR NOT MY FAULT: Michelle's fixation on her brother isn't normal or healthy. That Jake has been willing to tolerate it and not warn her to knock it off means that as long as you are with him, you will be subjected to her mistreatment. You may love Jake, but as long as he is under the thumb of his jealous and possessive sister, you will continue to be abused and maligned. My advice is to cut your losses.

DEAR ABBY: I am an African-American woman who was in a relationship with a Hispanic man. I am now a single parent of a beautiful 6-month-old son who is my pride and joy.

My biracial son, who looks exactly like me, is very fair-skinned. My problem is, any time I leave the house with him, strangers feel the need to ask me rude questions. I have been asked about my child's father's ethnicity, and asked if I was baby-sitting someone else's child. I'm left flabbergasted and speechless. What should I say the next time a stranger asks about my son's race, which is none of their business?

COLORBLIND IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR COLORBLIND: It's normal for people to be curious. If I were you, I wouldn't tell them it's none of their business because if you do, you will come across as angry and defensive. When your son is older, it may make him wonder if there is something wrong with his appearance. A better way to handle it would be to matter-of-factly just tell the truth and move on.

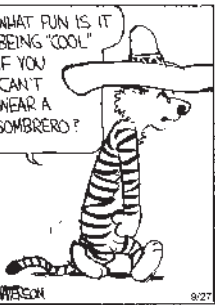
For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

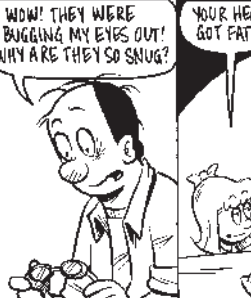
Calvin and Hobbes



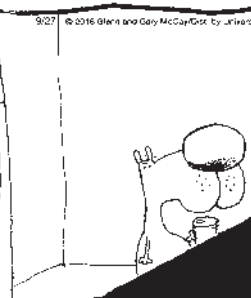
Garfield®



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

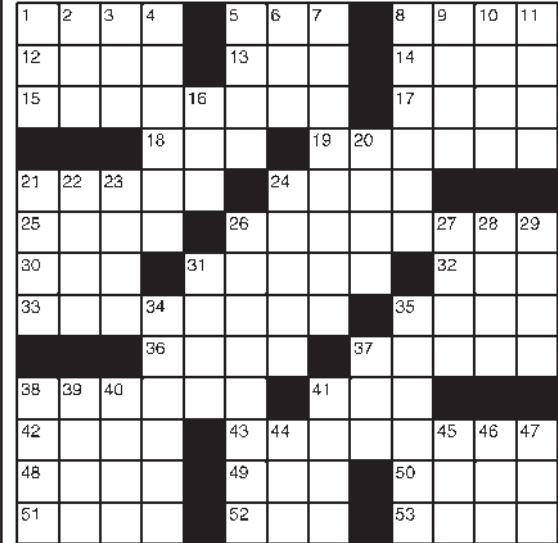
1 Artist
5 Phone bug
8 Fuzzy fruit
12 "Scram!"
13 Golfer Michelle
14 Guitarist Clapton
15 Pheasant or grouse
17 Harvard rival
18 Squealer
19 Pressed
21 Child's play
24 Pre-weekend cry
25 Libertine
26 Avian sound
30 Wise bird
31 Arrives
32 Coloration
33 Phone mom and dad
35 Seize
36 Like dried mud
37 Agrees (with)

38 Luxury boats
41 Charged bit
42 Pac-12 team
43 Mets contest at Citi Field, e.g.
48 DLI doubled
49 "— Clear Day"
50 Set down
51 Fermi's bit
52 Curse
53 Canal zones?

2 "Eureka!"
3 Computer acronym
4 Strong-arm
5 Ninny
6 Tire filler
7 Ancestry
8 It has no sharps or flats
9 Persia, today
10 Sly trick
11 On the rocks
16 "Hum-bug!"
20 Disen-cumbers
21 Gator's kin
22 Corn Belt, state
23 Void partner
24 "Lassie" lad
26 Store for readers
27 Melville captain
28 Sci-fi's Sky-walker
29 Sediment
31 Converse
34 Toast in Tel Aviv
35 Thrilling feeling
37 Average guy
38 Arizona city
39 Ad agcy. client
40 Advertis-ing award
41 Big-screen format
44 Yoko of music
45 Motorist's org.
46 Soviet space station
47 Mag. staff

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-27



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Avril Lavigne, 32; Gwyneth Paltrow, 44; Tamara Taylor, 46; Meat Loaf, 69.

Happy Birthday: A positive attitude will improve your relationship with others. Listen and offer solutions. Take the initiative and set an example of what you expect from others through your own actions. Look for practical ways to cut costs at home. Self-improvement, sticking to a strict budget and avoiding indulgent behavior is encouraged. Your numbers are 5, 11, 23, 27, 34, 41, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep on top of the job you are given and do the best you can. Persistence will pay off if you lay low and stay focused. Being practical and precise will help you avoid making unrealistic promises and decisions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Business meetings, educational pursuits or socializing with people who motivate you will all help you get ahead. A contractual development or new job offer looks appealing. Romance is on the rise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Trouble is brewing. Stick to the truth and get to the bottom of any problem you face. Someone will be less than accommodating and might expect something for next to nothing. Don't be afraid to decline a proposal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can gain wisdom by learning about different cultures, traditions and lifestyles.

Spend quality time with children or family members to help improve your attitude and perspective.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take initiative and make the changes that bring you joy. Get out with friends or attend a function that will help you discover alternatives you hadn't previously thought of pursuing. A challenge will allow you to show off.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Accept the inevitable and keep moving forward. Don't waste time or pretend to agree with someone when you don't. Look out for your interests and make the move that is best for you. Cut your losses and aim to win.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll learn from the people you have helped in the past. Discipline and an intuitive approach to the changes going on around you will enable you to maintain a sense of accomplishment, regardless of what others do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You need a pick-me-up. A change at home or a shopping spree will motivate you to take on a challenge that will help you advance. Take an unusual route and you will discover something you haven't noticed in the past.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Concentrate on where you want to be and what you want to do. Communicate with experienced individuals and make arrangements that suit your current needs. Take action, offer incentives and ask for help.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An incident while traveling or dealing with institutions will develop if you try to take on too much. Contain your temper. Be observant and avoid idle chatter. Keep the peace and keep your personal secrets hidden.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Suggestions that will alter the way you look should be considered carefully. You are better off protecting your assets and liabilities before you shake things up in your professional world.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An original approach to work and the way you handle others will put you in a good position for advancement. Romance is on the rise, and making plans with someone special will lead to a positive change.

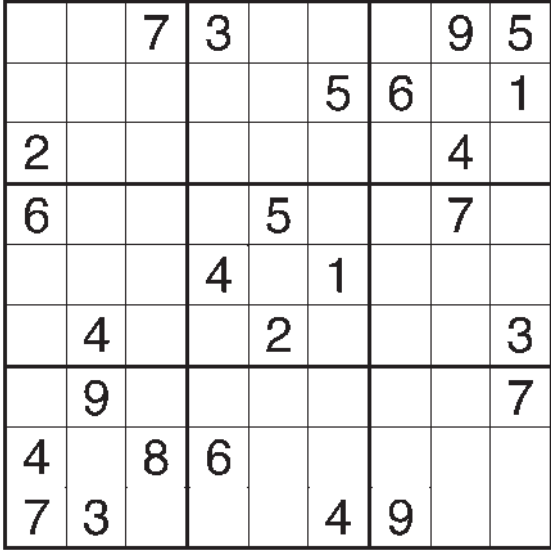
Birthday Baby: You are expressive, outgoing and playful. You are adaptable and progressive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

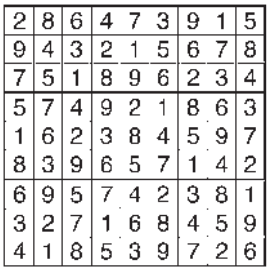
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BEAGLES Solution: 10 letters

L K T R E S C U E F I R T S L
O C A O G I M C O L O R U T G
Y A L U N P T E B D O O F R U
A P B D P A I R R H I H A I
L H O U N D O Y S R E U I D
Y O T O O W L E U R Y N N E
R P E T N I N C E E D T A T
E L L A M S W P W G E N T L E
S A U A E H M Y A L E O R A R
I Y F S I E P P L R R S A M M
C F R T T A U I K S B E C I I
R U E N R P G O O D A R K A N
E L E E P E G N I L G A E B E
X V H Y N B L A C K H O W L D
E T C T T N E C S N I F F E R

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Amiable, Beagling, Black, Breed, Brown, Bugs, Cheerful, Color, Curious, Dark, Determined, Dog, Even-tempered, Exercise, Family, Food, Gentle, Good, Guide, Hound, Howl, Hunt, Indoor, Intelligent, Loyal, Merry, Nose, Odie, Pack, Pet, Playful, Puppy, Rescue, Scent, Senses, Short, Small, Sniffer, Snoopy, Talbot, Tan, Therapy, Track, Train, Tri, Walk, White

Yesterday's Answer: North Dakota

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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WHATZIT Solution: Funny bone

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Classified Ads

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Saipan Tribune

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-BECQ-177

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2016 **TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "I" VEHICLE (5 DOOR UTILITY VEHICLE / ALL WHEEL DRIVE) FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR OF BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-DOC-162

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM – A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"


THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ GEORGIA M. CABRERA
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S


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- Ensure that transactions are completed and filed accurately and on time.
- Put away and pull parts for production.
- Receive process, put away, transfer, pull, kit and restock parts to/from various areas.
- Perform other duties as assigned

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- Must be able to read and understand units of measurement (ex: feet, inches, each, roll, etc.).
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- Must be able to accurately record and transfer information/transactions to required forms.
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- Must be flexible and available to work overtime as required by production needs.
- Must be able to work with all levels of employees within plant/office and external suppliers and truck drivers.
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- Must be able to push/pull a fully loaded cart (maximum of 125 lbs).

Application forms may be obtained at the HRD Office, South Wing, 2nd Floor. Interested applicants may also send their resumes to fiest_hr@fiestasaipan.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than September 30, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.



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Dodgers clinch NL West title in Scully's final home game



LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Sprayed champagne and beer flooded the blue carpet in the Dodgers clubhouse. The stench of alcohol hung in the damp air. Wives, kids and a puppy were in on the party with music blaring.

The Los Angeles Dodgers celebrated clinching their fourth straight NL West title with the kind of storybook ending this city was built on: winning the crown in Vin Scully's final home game when Charlie Culberson homered with two outs in the 10th inning to beat the Colorado Rockies 4-3 Sunday.

"It hasn't really sunk in," said Culberson, who made the opening day roster only to flip-flop between the majors and minors during the season.

Scully eluded the clubhouse chaos and throng of fans waiting outside the press box named for him, having quietly exited after broadcasting his last game at Dodger Stadium.

The 88-year-old Hall of Famer, who has just three games at San Francisco next weekend before ending his 67-year career, bid a public farewell to the team and its 51,962 fans at game's end.

Padres 4, Giants 3

In San Diego, rookie Manuel Margot tripled in the seventh inning and scored the go-ahead run on Wil Myers' single as San Diego dropped San Francisco a game behind the New York Mets in the NL wild-card race.

A few minutes before this game ended, the Los Angeles Dodgers beat Colorado in 10 innings to win the NL West title. The Dodgers came into Sunday seven games ahead of the Giants.

Cubs 3, Cardinals 1

In Chicago, David Ross homered and teamed with Jon Lester for another scoreless performance, and Chicago hurt St. Louis' wild-card chances.

Ben Zobrist had three hits and scored two runs as Chicago finished with a major league-best 57-24 home record. It's the most home wins for the Cubs since they went 58-19 at the West Side Grounds in 1910.

White Sox 3, Indians 0

In Cleveland, Carlos Rodon struck out a career-high 11 over eight dominant innings and the Chicago White Sox denied Cleveland any chance of winning the AL Central title by beating the Indians 3-0 on Sunday.

Rodon (8-10) blanked the Indians on just two singles and easily handled the division leaders who still haven't



wrapped up a playoff spot and have gone flat at the worst time possible. Cleveland needed to win its regular-season finale at home and Detroit to lose to Kansas City for the Indians to clinch their first division championship since 2007.

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 3

In Toronto, Ezequiel Carrera drove in the tying run with a squeeze bunt in the ninth inning, Edwin Encarnacion hit a winning single and Toronto hled its AL wild-card lead.

Toronto leads Baltimore by 1 1/2 games for the top AL wild-card spot. The Blue Jays have won a team-record eight straight at home against the Yankees.

Orioles 2, Diamondbacks 1

In Baltimore, Hyun Soo Kim hit his fifth home run, a two-run shot in the second inning, and Baltimore completed a three-game sweep of Arizona.

The Orioles entered the day a half-game ahead of Detroit for the second AL wild card and trailed Toronto by 1 1/2 games for the top spot. The Orioles begin a crucial three-game series at the Blue Jays on Tuesday.

Royals 12, Tigers 9

In Detroit, Salvador Perez homered to cap a cycle by Kansas City's first four batters of the game, and the Royals went deep three more times to beat Detroit and drop the Tigers in the AL wild-card race.

The defending World Series champions avoided elimination from this year's postsea-

son race by chasing Detroit starter Matt Boyd (6-5) before he retired a hitter. Kansas City started the game with a single, a triple and a double before Perez's two-run homer made it 4-0.

Red Sox 3, Rays 2, 10 innings

In St. Petersburg, Dustin Pedroia used nifty baserunning to score from first base on David Ortiz's double in the 10th inning and AL East-leading Boston won its 11th straight.

Pedroia singled off Edie Gamboa (0-1) to start the inning. The relay throw on Ortiz's hit to right center beat Pedroia to plate but he avoided Luke Maile's first tag. Pedroia's momentum carried him past the plate and when he went back to touch it Maile was charged with an error when the ball dropped out of his glove on another tag try.

Mets 17, Phillies 0

In New York, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a grand slam, Jose Reyes drove in four runs and the Mets got the largest shutout victory in team history to maintain the NL wild-card lead.

On an afternoon when batters circled the bases like the cartoon Gashouse Gorillas, the Mets romped in their final regular-season game at Citi Field.

Reds 4, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Brandon Finnegan pitched five scoreless innings in his final start of the season, lifting the Cincin-

nati past Milwaukee.

Finnegan (10-11) scattered three hits and struck out four, needing only 54 pitches to get through five innings. Raisel Iglesias pitched the ninth for his fourth save in five chances.

Astros 4, Angels 1

In Houston, Joe Musgrove pitched seven strong innings, Evan Gattis, Tony Kemp and Tyler White homered, and Houston snapped a three-game slide to preserve its playoff hopes.

Houston began the day three games behind Baltimore for the second AL wild-card spot.

Mariners 4, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Nelson Cruz homered twice before leaving with left wrist soreness, Jesus Sucre homered for the first time in 14 months and Seattle beat Minnesota.

Taijuan Walker (7-11) danced around danger for most of his 5 2/3 innings, allowing nine hits and three earned runs. Nick Vincent, Steve Cishek and Edwin Diaz then combined for 3 2/3 innings of no-hit relief, including Diaz's 17th save in 19 chances.

Athletics 7, Rangers 1

In Oakland, Jharel Cotton pitched seven crisp innings and Oakland avoided a series sweep.

Ryon Healy had three hits, including a two-run homer, and Stephen Vogt drove in three runs to help the A's win after being shut out in back-to-back games.

Los Angeles Dodgers' Joc Pederson, bottom, scores as Colorado Rockies catcher Tony Wolters loses the ball during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016, in Los Angeles.

Nationals 10, Pirates 7

In Pittsburgh, Nationals star Bryce Harper injured his left thumb making an awkward slide to avoid a pretend tag by Pittsburgh third baseman Jung Ho Kang, and the teams later cleared the benches in Washington's win.

Harper led off the third inning with a triple for the NL East champions. As Harper neared third, Kang acted as if a throw was coming and faked a tag. Harper went down, was checked by a trainer and stayed in. He scored on Anthony Rendon's double and was replaced in the field in the bottom half.

The next time Kang came up, Nationals starter A.J. Cole threw a fastball behind him and was immediately ejected by plate umpire Jordan Baker.

Marlins players gather at park to grieve death of Fernandez

MIAMI (AP)—Marlins players gathered at the team's ballpark to grieve together following the death of teammate Jose Fernandez.

"A lot of words were said, meaningful words and emotion and prayer," Marlins president David Samson said. "Jose is a member of this family for all time."

Samson spoke at a news conference, surrounded by more than two dozen players wearing Marlins jerseys—the black ones.

Manager Don Mattingly and president of baseball operations Michael Hill flanked Samson and fought back tears.

"When I think about Jose, it's going to be thinking about a little kid," Mattingly said. "I see such a little boy in him ... the way he played. ... Kids play Little League, that's the joy Jose played with."

The Marlins' game Sunday against Atlanta was canceled. Their home game Monday night against the New York Mets will be played as scheduled, the team said.

"Deep in our hearts there is a lot of pain," third baseman Martin Prado said. "Somehow we've got to overcome that."

The owner of the Miami Marlins says he is feeling the "deepest sorrow" over the death of Jose Fernandez.

Jeffrey Loria released a statement early Sunday af-

ternoon saying he, his family and the entire organization is mourning Fernandez's death.

Loria says that "sadly, the brightest lights are often the ones that extinguish the fastest."

Authorities in Florida say Miami Marlins ace Jose Fernandez was not wearing a life vest when he was killed in a boating crash off Miami Beach early Sunday.

An official from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission told reporters that Fernandez was with two friends when the 32-foot SeaVee that they were traveling in hit rocks and capsized during a boating trip.

Lorenzo Veloz of the fish commission said the boat was found upside down. Two bodies were found under the vessel and one was found in the water by divers.

The boat was traveling full speed and was demolished. There was no evidence of alcohol or illegal substances being a factor in the crash.

Major League Baseball released a statement saying it was "stunned and devastated" by news of the death of Fernandez.

MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred called Fernandez one of baseball's "great young stars" who made a dramatic impact on and off the field since his debut in 2013.

Eagles' defense shuts down Big Ben, Steelers



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Carson Wentz threw for 301 yards and two touchdowns, a fierce defense shut down Ben Roethlisberger and Antonio Brown and the Philadelphia Eagles beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 34-3 on Sunday to remain unbeaten.

The rookie No. 2 overall pick connected with Darren Sproles on a 73-yard, catch-and-run TD and tossed a 12-yard TD pass to Jordan Matthews.

After beating the Browns and Bears in the first two games, the Eagles (3-0) proved they could compete with the big boys. The Steelers (2-1) averaged 31 points the first two weeks and are considered Super Bowl contenders.

Pittsburgh was 19-2 against rookie quarterbacks since 2004. But Wentz is no ordinary rookie.

Everyone is jumping on the Wentz wagon in Philadelphia. And he was the No. 3 quarterback until Sam Bradford was traded to Minnesota just eight days before the

season opener.

Sproles finished with six catches for 128 yards and Kenjon Barner and rookie Wendell Smallwood each had their first career rushing TDs.

Broncos 29, Bengals 17

In Cincinnati, Trevor Siemian threw a career-high four touchdown passes in his first road start and was nearly perfect under fourth-quarter pressure, rallying Denver over Cincinnati.

The defending Super Bowl champions are 3-0 under Siemian, who took over after Peyton Manning retired and Brock Osweiler went to Houston. He completed 11 of 12 passes while rallying the Broncos to a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns.

Packers 34, Lions 27

In Green Bay, Aaron Rodgers threw for 205 yards and four touchdowns, including two in the first half to Jordy Nelson, and Green Bay snapped out of its offensive funk before holding off Detroit.

Rodgers was 15 of 24, leading the Packers to touch-



Pittsburgh Steelers' Antonio Brown (84) is brought down by Philadelphia Eagles' Rodney McLeod during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016, in Philadelphia.

touchdowns, intercepted three passes in the end zone and forced eight turnovers total in a victory over New York.

Marcus Peters had two of the picks for the Chiefs (2-1), including the first of four off the Jets' Ryan Fitzpatrick in the fourth quarter. Daniel Sorenson had another, Derrick Johnson returned his 55 yards for a touchdown, and D.J. White snagged his in the end zone with 1:54 left in the game.

Ravens 19, Jaguars 17

In Jacksonville, Justin Tucker kicked a 54-yard field goal with 1:02 remaining, lifting Baltimore over Jacksonville.

Tucker raised both arms in celebration as his fourth field goal of the day split the uprights with plenty of distance. The Ravens improved to 3-0 for the third time in franchise history and first since 2009.

Bills 33, Cardinals 18

In New York, LeSean McCoy scored twice and safety Aaron Williams returned a botched field-goal snap 53 yards for a touchdown in leading Buffalo over Arizona.

Quarterback Tyrod Taylor also scored on a 20-yard run at a time the Rex Ryan-coached Bills spent the past week taking the brunt of criticism after opening the season 0-2.

Raiders 17, Titans 10

In Nashville, Derek Carr threw for 249 yards and a touchdown, and Oakland beat Tennessee with its defense finally coming up with some big plays.

The Raiders (2-1) forced three turnovers and had a sack after coming into this game having given up more yards than any team since at least 1940 through the first two games. Coach Jack Del made a couple of lineup changes, starting linebacker Cory James and rookie safety Karl Joseph, their top draft pick.

Dolphins 30, Browns 24, OT

In Miami, Jay Ajayi scored on an 11-yard run with 8:26 left in overtime, and Miami escaped with a win over Cleveland.

Ajayi's winner came one play after Miami quarterback Ryan Tannehill found a wide-open Jarvis Landry for a 32-yard gain, as the Dolphins (1-2) avoided what would be their first 0-3 start since 2011.

Wade ready for Chicago challenge



MIAMI (AP)—It's not like Dwyane Wade has never dealt with change before.

He played for three head coaches in 13 seasons with the Miami Heat, helped orchestrate one of the most scrutinized free-agent hauls in NBA history when LeBron James and Chris Bosh came to play alongside him, and had 112 teammates along the way.

So going into a new locker room doesn't figure to overwhelm him.

Wade's first official day of work with an NBA team other than Miami comes on Monday, when he goes to media day on the eve of his first training camp with the Chicago Bulls—the team he grew up rooting for, a club he has faced off against 64 times as an opponent and now the franchise he'll be asked to help lead.

"It's going to be difficult, 100 percent. I'm fine with it, though," Wade said in an interview with The Associated Press. "For me, it goes back to the whole challenge thing. It's not like I haven't done this before. At the end of the day we're all wearing the same jersey right now and we have to come together, just like any team. And that's going to be tough."

Wade left Miami this summer in a move that shocked the Heat. He took a two-year

deal worth about \$47 million from the Bulls, who came in offering a bit more than what the Heat were able to promise. He leaves Miami as one of two players who were on all three Heat championship teams—Udonis Haslem is the other—and as the franchise leader in points by an enormous margin.

But now he changes addresses, changes colors and in many ways is starting over. So are the Heat, who won't have him and will go into the season without Bosh—still sidelined by the blood-clot problem that ended each of his last two seasons, an issue that now seems to be putting any plans he has for a return to the court in major jeopardy.

Wade said he still wants the very best for Bosh. He'll just have to send those wishes from afar now, while he gets ready to embrace his own challenge of meshing with Jimmy Butler, Rajon Rondo and the rest of the Bulls.

"When I don't have anything else left to prove, then I don't need to play the game of basketball," Wade said. "I want to prove I'm out of my comfort zone. I'm in a totally different environment, a totally different system. This is a challenge for me, at this stage of my career. Leave it up to me to put myself in a challenge and not just fade to black in the comfortableness of Miami."

downs on their first three series. Nelson had 101 yards on six catches, returning to the form that made him one of the NFL's best receivers before missing the 2015 season with a knee injury.

Cowboys 31, Bears 17

In Arlington, Dak Prescott led scoring drives on all four Dallas possessions in the first half before throwing his first career touchdown pass, and the Cowboys beat Chicago to snap an eight-game home losing streak.

With his second straight win, Prescott doubled the number of victories the Cowboys (2-1) had in 14 games without injured quarterback Tony Romo over three seasons before the rookie fourth-round pick showed up. Prescott was 19 of 24 for 248 yards in Dallas' first home win since last year's opener.

Vikings 22, Panthers 10

In Charlotte, Sam Bradford threw a touchdown pass to Kyle Rudolph, Marcus Sherels returned a punt for a score and Minnesota snapped Carolina's 14-game home winning streak.

The Vikings (3-0) put the

clamps on Cam Newton, intercepting the league's reigning MVP three times and sacking him eight times, one of those resulting in a safety by Danielle Hunter.

Seahawks 37, 49ers 18

In Seattle, Russell Wilson threw for 243 yards and a touchdown before suffering a left knee injury and Seattle rolled to a rout of San Francisco.

Wilson was injured with about 10 minutes to go in the third quarter getting pulled down awkwardly on a sack by San Francisco's Eli Harold. Harold was called for a horse collar penalty, but the bigger concern was how he fell on Wilson's left leg.

Colts 26, Chargers 22

In Indianapolis, Andrew Luck shook off a sore throwing shoulder, then watched T.Y. Hilton break a tackle on a 63-yard touchdown pass with 1:17 to play, giving Indianapolis a victory over San Diego.

It's the second time this season Luck has produced a late score to give Indy a lead in the waning seconds.

Redskins 29, Giants 27

In East Rutherford, Dustin

Hopkins kicked a 37-yard field goal late in the fourth quarter for his fifth of the game and Washington Redskins avoid a near-disastrous 0-3 start with a win over the penalty-and-error-prone New York.

Kirk Cousins threw touchdown passes of 44 yards to DeSean Jackson and 55 to Jamison Crowder as the banged-up Redskins (1-2) handed new coach Ben McDoo his first loss with the Giants (2-1).

Rams 37, Buccaneers 32

In Tampa, Case Keenum threw for the Rams' first touchdown since relocating back to Los Angeles, and Todd Gurley rushed for two more scores in a victory over Tampa Bay.

The Rams (2-1), who did not get into the end zone in the first two games of the season, also scored on Ethan Westbrooks' 77-yard fumble return and Tavon Austin's 43-yard reception in the fourth quarter before thunder and lightning caused a 69-minute weather delay with two minutes remaining.

Chiefs 24, Jets 3

In Kansas City, the Chiefs returned two turnovers for

Palmer dies at 87, made golf popular for masses

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Arnold Palmer brought a country club sport to the masses with a hard-charging style, charisma and a commoner's touch. At ease with both presidents and the golfing public, and on a first-name basis with both, "The King" died Sunday in Pittsburgh. He was 87.

Alastair Johnston, CEO of Arnold Palmer Enterprises, confirmed that Palmer died Sunday afternoon of complications from heart problems. Johnston said Palmer was admitted to the UPMC Hospital on Thursday for some cardiovascular work and weakened over the last



few days.

"Today marks the passing of an era," said Johnston, Palmer's longtime agent at IMG. "Arnold Palmer's influence, profile and achievements spread far beyond the game of golf. He was an iconic American who treated people with respect and warmth, and built a unique legacy through his ability to engage with fans."

President Barack Obama tweeted about Palmer's death, saying: "Here's to The King who was as extraordinary on the links as he was generous to others. Thanks for the memories, Arnold."



This July 25, 1970, file photo shows Jack Nicklaus, left, and Arnold Palmer, next to him, at the National Four Ball Championships in Ligonier, Pa. Palmer, who made golf popular for the masses with his hard-charging style, incomparable charisma and a personal touch that made him known throughout the golf world as "The King," died Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016, in Pittsburgh. He was 87.

Real Madrid dealing with poor results and unhappy Ronaldo

MADRID (AP)—Two consecutive draws and a little rant by Cristiano Ronaldo have put Real Madrid on the verge of an early crisis.

Real Madrid got off to a good start this season but setbacks against Villarreal and Las Palmas in the Spanish league, combined with Ronaldo's angry reaction after being substituted on Saturday, have created an air of turmoil.

The Spanish powerhouse still holds the league lead, but its advantage over Barcelona was cut to one point after the recent lackluster performances. Madrid also struggled against Sporting Lisbon in its Champions League opener, when it

needed two late goals to salvage a 2-1 win at home.

The biggest problem facing coach Zinedine Zidane may be Ronaldo, who was visibly upset after being replaced in the 72nd minute in the 2-2 draw at Las Palmas. The Portuguese forward did not look at Zidane as they quickly shook hands after the substitution. Zidane was the one who moved toward Ronaldo and extended his hand.

Ronaldo had walked briskly toward the sideline after seeing he was being replaced by youngster Lucas Vazquez, sputtering words to himself and not hiding his disappointment.

He continued talking, apparently in Portuguese, on his way to the bench, where he watched the rest of the game.

After the match, Zidane tried to downplay Ronaldo's attitude, saying he didn't think the player was angry at being replaced. The coach said he took his star forward out to rest him ahead of the team's Champions League match at Borussia Dortmund.

"We've got a game on Tuesday and I thought that it was the right time to bring him off," Zidane said. "That's all there is to it. He always wants to play and be out

there on the pitch, but I've also got to think about the player and he needed to rest and think about Tuesday."

Madrid was winning 2-1 when Ronaldo was replaced, and Las Palmas equalized near the end to keep Madrid winless for the second straight match.

"We're relaxed," Zidane said. "We are working hard and focused on what we're doing. We have to realize that you can't always win, but we're on the right track."

Ronaldo did not play well but set up the team's second goal on Saturday, scored by Karim Benzema, just minutes before being taken off the field.



CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

KOREANS

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liminaries with her 35 points, while Jjya placed second after recording 40 points and the two riders joined Kwak in the finale after getting 36.5 and 44.5 points, respectively, in the semis. Four other riders participated in the open bodyboard division. The list includes Japan's Yasuko Nakamura (27.5 points), Jun (32.5), Park (32), and Eunok Choi (28.5).

In the pro bodyboard, Kwak

bested four other participants after scoring 41.1 points in the finals. Jjya had a runner-up finish after posting 38.9 points in the championship ride, while Park rounded out the Top 3 with her 37.1 points. Woo and Junko Seto were the other entries in the division and were eliminated early after recording 37 and 29 points, respectively, in the ranking rides.

In the masters bodyboard, familiar faces also figured in the finals with Kwak again on the winning end. She got

44.4 points from the judges' scorecards to down Jjya (39.2 points), Japan's Yasuko Okuwaki (37.5), and Park (37.3).

The eventual champion reigned supreme, too in the preliminary rides with her 51.5 points, as she was the only rider to score 50-plus points. Okuwaki was second with her 46 markers, followed by Jjya (44), Park (42.5), Jun (31), Nakamura (29.5), and Choi (24).

After falling short in the bodyboard events, Park this time won in the flowboard

against Kwak. Park, who ruled the preliminary rides with her 40 points, tallied 34.8 versus the 27.5 of Kwak in the championship round. Choi completed the Top 3 with her 27 points in the finals.

In the novice bodyboard finals, Jun earned 32 points and defeated PIC's Karry Pothier and Lalaine Santomin, who gained 26.4 and 26.1 points, respectively. Two other riders joined the novice bodyboard category: Eunmi Park (41.5 points) and Takako Suda (24).

SUPPORT

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School, which is one of the most active MISO members, expressed her support for the return of the competitions among high school students.

"Thanks to MISO, the level of competition among students has improved tremendously. It has given our athletes opportunity to compete on a real court under official rules and regulations. Indoor volleyball has been impacted very positively with MISO. Our students have enjoyed every tournament. Safe and great," said Saiki,

who coaches the Geckos volleyball teams.

Mt. Carmel School's Karleen Reyes is also hoping to play in the MISO-like basketball league in her final year with the Lady Knights.

"It is sad to leave high school knowing I won't have the chance to play in the league. We definitely miss having MISO. It's something that students look forward to each school year. Having the league brings so much fun. It gives so many athletes the chance to play a sport they truly have a passion for. Student-athletes from the MISO

league definitely show the thrill and intensity in the different games. I miss that the most because it just gives you that great feeling to become a better athlete," Reyes said.

MHS basketball coach Preston Basa echoed Reyes' thoughts, saying playing in MISO is something his students look forward to every school year.

"I have been asked many times by my players/students when will the league resumes. MISO does not only encourage them to be better athletes, but also to become better students. They have to work hard to get the required GPA and be able to

play for their school," Basa said.

The Dolphins coach added having MISO competitions provide CNMI national coaches opportunities to identify talents that they could tap to represent the Commonwealth in international and regional competitions.

Meanwhile, Gross is requesting school officials and coaches to turn in their letter of support before the Sept. 29 meeting with the Public School System.

"Thank you for your support and I look forward to seeing our kids playing once again," Gross said.

forefront on TV. If it wasn't for him and his excitement, his flair, the way he played, golf probably would not have had that type of excitement.

"And that's why he's the king."

Beyond his golf, Palmer was a pioneer in sports marketing, paving the way for scores of other athletes to reap in millions from endorsements. Some four decades after his last PGA Tour win, he ranked among the highest-earners in golf.

"It is not an exaggeration to say there would be no modern-day PGA Tour without Arnold Palmer. There would be no Golf Channel without Arnold Palmer," PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem said in a statement.

and Toves and Maniago made one each. Maniago then scored Kanoa's first goal in the second half (55th minute) before completing a hat trick in the 68th. Kanoa had four goals in a span of eight minutes with Lubao lighting up the board in the 61st, Benavente in the 65th, and Maniago and Manabat in the 68th and 69th, respectively.

TanHoldings 6, MP United 1

TanHoldings gained a share of the division lead with Paire after outclassing MP United in the last game in Week 2.

TanHoldings dropped three goals apiece in the first and second half and nearly shut down MP United to get its second victory in as many games.

John Paul Cruz led the spring season champion TanHoldings with his pair of goals in the second half, while John Guiller Canape recorded the team's other goal in the final frame. In the first half, John Michael Rojas put TanHoldings on the board with his conversion in the fifth minute, while the next two goals were courtesy of Mark Esalan and Thaippi Austria, who found their targets in the 23rd and 25th minute, respectively.

MP United's lone goal came from Go Sekiguchi as he broke the team's silence in the 63rd minute.

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Shirley's. Church, who had four goals in their 6-2 triumph over MP United in Week 1, had a string of three goals in the first half and ended the opening 35 minutes of play with four. He finished what he started, knocking in Paire's last goal, while his fifth came early in the second half.

Robbie Schorr, Jamin Elliot, and Mateo Guerrero added two goals apiece for Paire, while James Lee and Blake Mister chipped in one each. William Celester registered the lone goal for Shirley's, which came from a 0-7 loss to Matansa in the division's opening week.

Kanoa 11, Matansa 0

In the first game, Kanoa bounced back from a loss to TanHoldings in Week 1 after routing Matansa.

Six different players hit the board for Kanoa (1-0-1) with Ian Maniago leading the way for his team after gaining three goals. Kirt Andon and Jhoey Noble contributed two goals each, while Merrick Toves, Thomas Benavente, Sebastien Manabat, and Brian Lubao tallied one apiece.

Andon nailed back-to-back goals for Kanoa in the first half, while Noble also had a brace in the opening frame,

10th PIC Point Break Invitational Competition

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



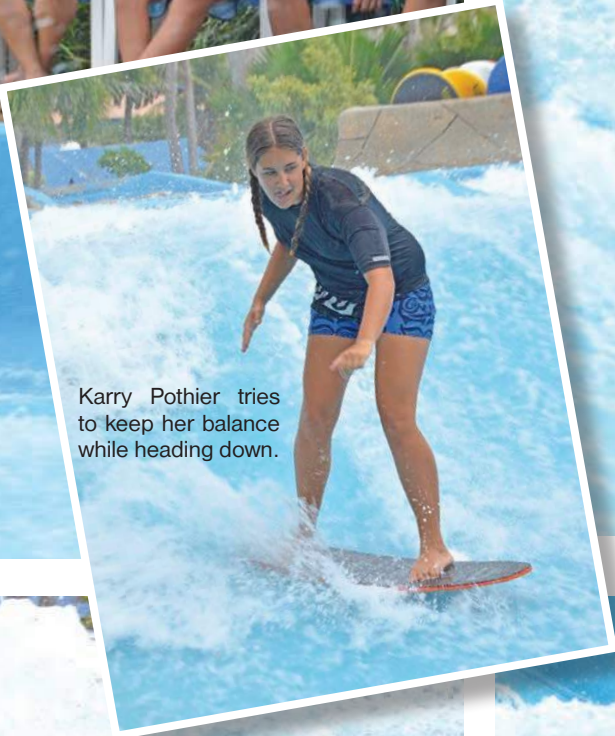
Yasuko Okuwari descends into the water to start her tricks during the women's flowboard event in the 10th Annual Point Break Invitational Competition held over the weekend at the PIC Saipan's flowride facility.



Sun Mee Kwak loses her balance.



Spectators and other participants watch a female rider during the flowboard event.



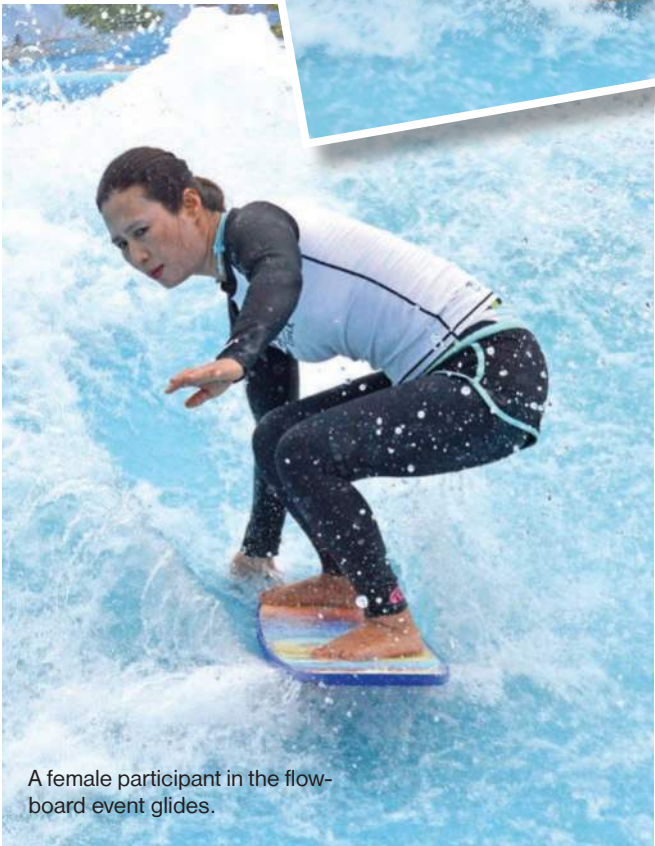
Karry Pothier tries to keep her balance while heading down.



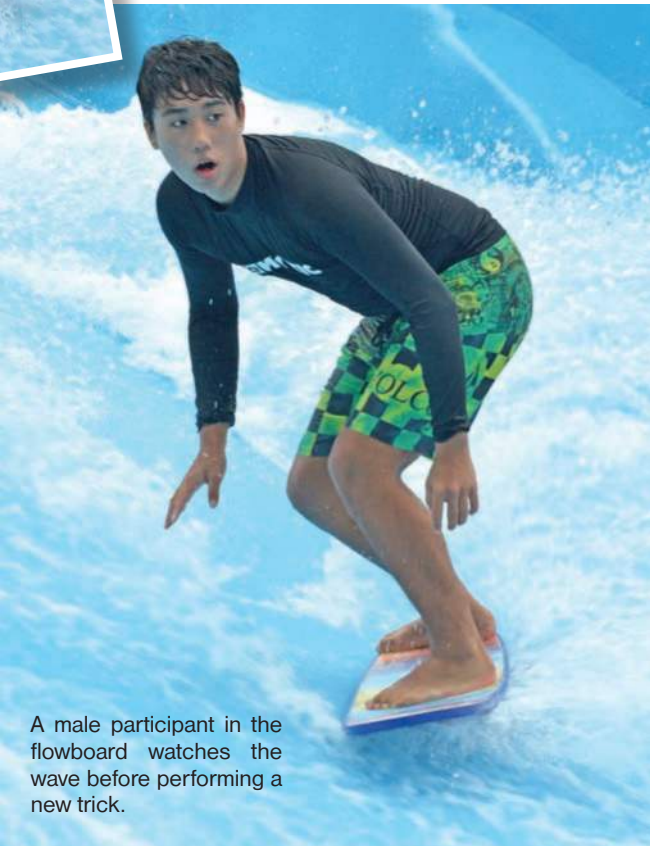
A male participant in the flowboard concentrates.



Sophia Park bends down to get ready for her trick.



A female participant in the flowboard event glides.



A male participant in the flowboard watches the wave before performing a new trick.



Dodgers clinch
NL West title
in Scully's final
home game

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28 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Support for interscholastic sports sought



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Marianas High School's Wilfredo Francisco is sandwiched by the MISO All-Stars's Allen Yu, left, and Emerson Feria during their title game in the 2014 Settsu-Saipan tournament at the MHS Gymnasium. MISO did not have basketball competition in the 2015-2016 school year after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan last Aug. 2, 2015.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization official Nick Gross is calling all concerned school heads and coaches to support interscholastic sports programs.

"After entirely too much time without sports programs, we are trying to resurrect what we had and continue to improve our programs. In an effort to accomplish this I have called for a meeting with PSS leaders on Sep. 29," Gross said in an email circulated among former MISO member schools and their representatives.

MISO competitions for the 2015-2016 school year were shelved after Typhoon Soudelor struck Saipan last Aug. 2, 2015. The organization used to hold boys and girls indoor volleyball and basketball games at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, which has yet to undergo repairs after sustaining significant damage from last year's typhoon. Other sports in MISO's calendar were outrigger



canoe, football, women's fast-pitch softball, golf, and tennis.

"I can't guarantee that the programs will be headed by MISO moving forward, but much of the framework, relationships, and energy that MISO had in providing meaningful athletic opportunities to the youth of the CNMI will. This being said I would like to humbly ask all of you to assist me/us with this endeavor by taking a moment to reflect on the role MISO played in providing interscholastic sporting opportunities for the CNMI youth through letters of support for interscholastic sports programs," Gross added.

Mili Saiki of Saipan International

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Easy wins for 3 teams in boys U14 league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire Football Club led two other teams in posting lopsided victories in the boys U14 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Kobleville Elementary School Field.

Paire played in the second game

in Week 2 of the division and hammered Shirley's FC, 14-1, to improve its win-draw-loss record to 2-0-0. Shirley's is still winless after two matches.



Again, Kaden Church powered Paire to the easy win after scoring six goals against the hapless

See **EASY** on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United player, left, is tightly guarded by two TanHoldings defenders during the second half of their boys U14 division game in the NMIFA fall youth league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

Koreans dominate women's field

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

South Korea's Sun Mee Kwak topped three categories in the 10th Annual Point Break Invitational

Competition held over the weekend at PIC Saipan's flowrider facility.

Kwak won the women's pro and open bodyboard and completed the hat trick when she ruled the masters bodyboard division. Join-



ing Kwak on the champions list were fellow Koreans Bo Young Jun and Sophia Park, who prevailed in the novice bodyboard and flowboard categories, respectively.

In the open bodyboard division finals last Saturday, Kwak earned 44.6 points to beat Go Eun Woo (41.88 points) and Jjaya (40.5 points). Kwak also finished first in the ranking rides held last Friday after tallying 41 points and moved to the finals following her 41.5 points in the semis.

Woo was ranked third in the pre-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

South Korea's Sun Mee Kwak performs a trick in the women's flowboard event of the 10th Annual Point Break Invitational Competition held over the weekend at PIC Saipan's flowrider facility.

